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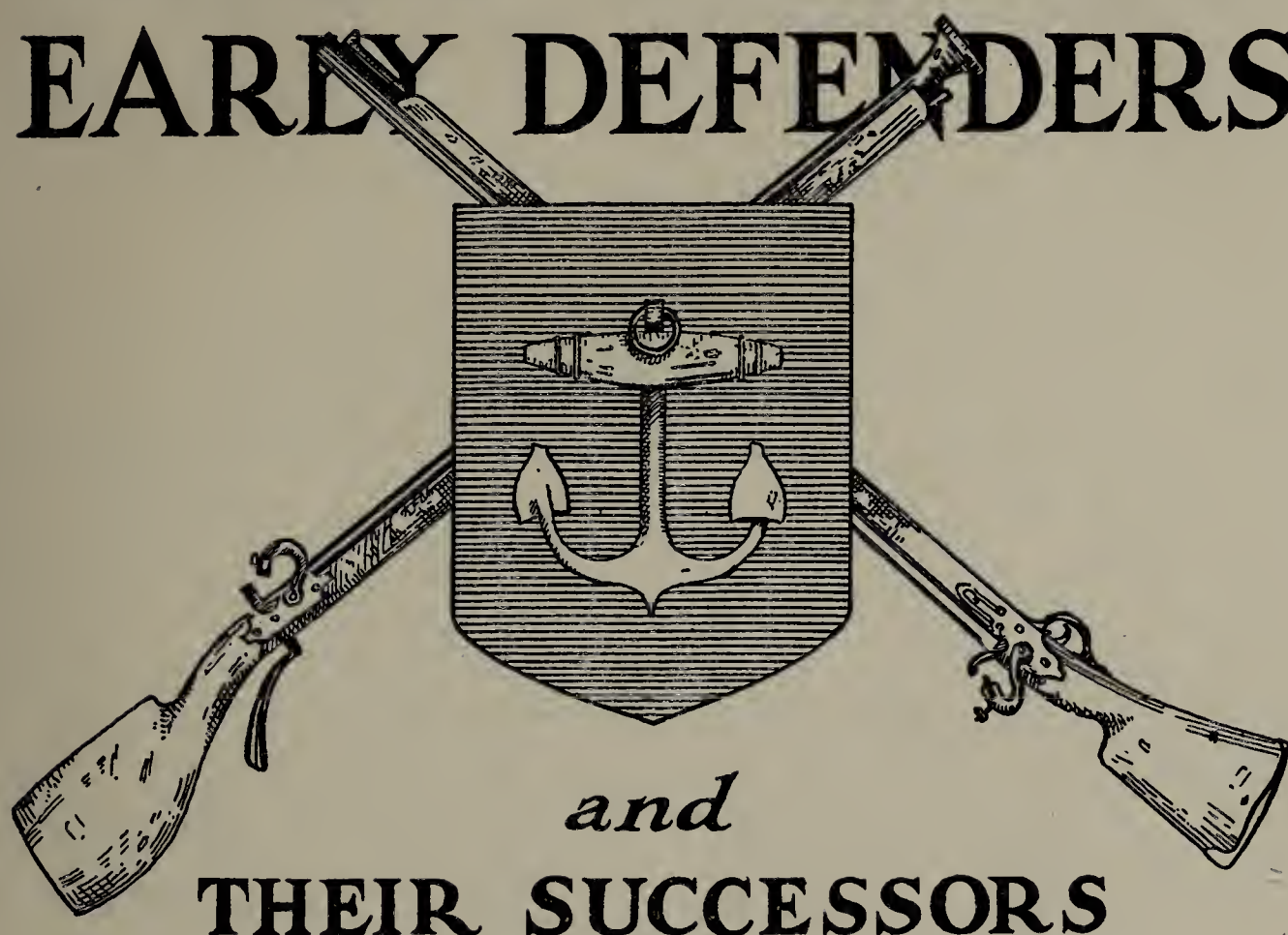
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RHODE ISLAND'S EARLY DEFENDERS



and
THEIR SUCCESSORS

BRIG. GEN. J. J. RICHARDS
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THE COLONIAL PERIOD

1638 - 1775

It is reasonable to assume that the first thoughts of the early pioneer were directed to the three great questions of food, habitation and defense. This must be so wherever man attacks the primeval wilderness with its unknown dangers and its feared inhabitants. It was especially true in the days when the hardy exiles from Massachusetts crossed the Seekonk to the land of Conanicus.

It so happened that in their case the friendly natives, the surrounding forests and the well stocked waters supplied the food; the pine boughs and rough logs cut from the house lot solved the housing problem; and, when danger threatened, the cumbersome wide-muzzeled blunderbus with a scanty supply of precious gun powder and musket balls of large size provided the defense upon which the settlers relied.

We can easily imagine these early adventurers erecting their brush shelters or rude huts, and later on their more substantial cabins under the watchful eye of one or two musketeers. We can see the fields broken up, the seeds planted and the crops gathered while the crude and unwieldly firearms were lying within easy reach on near by stump or rock.

Naturally the advisability of unity of action and a combination of effort in the matter of defense was soon apparent and at the first meeting of the settlers at Portsmouth in 1638, it was ordered that every inhabitant of the town be equipped with certain arms and prepared to perform certain military duties. At a subsequent meeting a military company or "Train Band" was organized and William Boulston and Edward Hutchinson named as officers. These are the first officers of Rhode Island's military forces of which there is any record. In August, 1638, a general muster of all male inhabitants capable of bearing arms

was held on the Island of Aquidneck. This was Rhode Island's first militia mobilization.

During the following year, 1639, a "Traine Band" was formed in Providence and a general training day provided for. In 1640 the Portsmouth Militia law was amended, the number of drills being fixed to eight per year, with two Muster Days, one to be held at Portsmouth and one at Newport.

As the cabins increased in number along the path bordering the upper end of Narragansett bay and other settlements sprang into being to the south, a sort of tentative union developed which resulted in 1647 in the holding of a Colonial Assembly at which John Coggeshall was elected president of the combined settlements. Laws governing the conduct of affairs were enacted and the question of the defense of the Colony was carefully gone into.

It was conceded that an organized military force, subject to drill and discipline, was essential to the well being of the settlements. A law along the lines of that in force on the Island was adopted as the law of the Colony.

By this law the inhabitants of the various towns were authorized to organize military companies and select officers, and assemble for drill on the first Monday of each month, excepting in the months of May, August, January and February. Permission was also given for the setting aside of public lands for the establishment of an "Artillery Garden" or drill ground.

From this law, created only eleven years after the landing of Roger Williams at Providence, the Militia System of Rhode Island grew.

The companies or "Traine Bands" that resulted from this law consisted of perhaps a dozen men each, poorly armed and equipped. In most cases their only uniform was a colored feather, from the barnyard or near by forest, stuck in their hat bands.

Naturally the records of these early organizations are incomplete, but we find that in 1649 the "Traine Band" of the Island was organized at Newport with the following officers:

Captain Clarke, Lieutenant Dyre and Ensign Barker.

Service in these companies was obligatory, each man was required to provide his own arms and equipment, and officers were often chosen without their consent and against their wishes. The result was, in many cases, indifference and neglect on the part of the officers and untrained and inefficient companies. The matter became so serious that this year (1649) the Colonial Assembly enacted the following law: "That should one chosen Captain of the Traine Band refuse the place and accepting the place, neglect to traine the band upon the days appointed, he shall forfeit five pounds and the lieutenant, in like manner, fifty shillings."

The records of the Town of Providence show that in 1653 the "Traine Band" of that town was officered by Lieut. Thomas Harris and Ensign John Smith, the Miller.

In 1667 The Island Troop of Horse was formed at Newport under Captain Peleg Sanford and Lieut. John Almye. It is interesting to note that this is the first organization to appear upon the military roll of Rhode Island bearing a distinctive name.

During this year the mother country was at war with France and Holland and naturally great excitement prevailed throughout New England. Rumors of Indian attacks and French invasions spread throughout the colonies. Defensive measures were the order of the day. All male Indians within reach were disarmed. The traine bands were increased in number. Cavalry troops were organized where possible and the Colonial Assembly took over the commissioning of officers.

In 1673 in order to produce uniformity and increased efficiency the different military organizations were formed into one command. Capt. John Cranston, of the Island Traine Band, was commissioned by the Assembly as Captain-in-chief of the combined forces.

Then came the period of the King Philip War in which our colony was represented only by the volunteers that marched with the Massachusetts troops. Capt. Cranston's rank was raised to that of Major. Providence was practically abandoned.

The King's Garrison of eight men, commanded by Capt Arthur Fenner, was dismissed, the old men and women sent to Newport, the traine band was added to by recruits and Roger Williams, over seventy years of age, was appointed captain and took charge of the defense of the town.

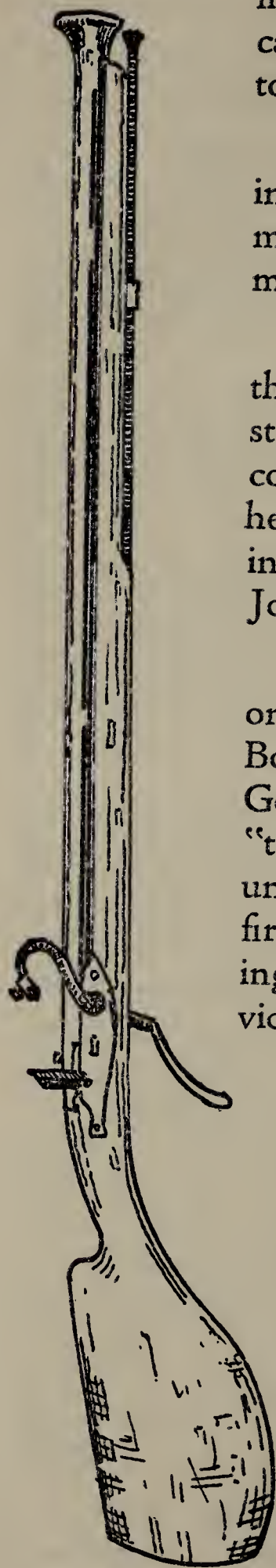
The Newport Traine Band was expanded into two companies, one under Capt. Andrew Edmunds and the other under Lieut. Edward Richmond.

In 1677 Arthur Fenner was in command of the Providence company and Major John Cranston was still in command of the militia of the colony. Upon his election as governor in 1678, he was succeeded by Major Peleg Sanford, who in the following year was succeeded by Major John Albro.

In 1680 the militia organization of the Colony was disclosed in a statement furnished the Board of Trade, London, by Major Sanford, then Governor. This listed the Colonial forces as "ten companys of foote, being Trayned Bands under one Generall Commander, their arms are firelockes". Major Albro served as commanding officer until 1683 when the militia was divided into two groups, the Island and Mainland Troops.

John Coggeshall, former president, was commissioned Major of the Island troops, while Major John Greene commanded those of the Mainland.

These two groups of militia continued to serve the colony for thirty years, during which time traine bands were organized in all of the towns. In 1692 the Traine Band of King's Town, Capt. Jeoffrey Champlin; the Traine Band of James Town, Capt. Thomas Paine and the Traine Band of Block Island,



Capt. John Saunders, were organized.

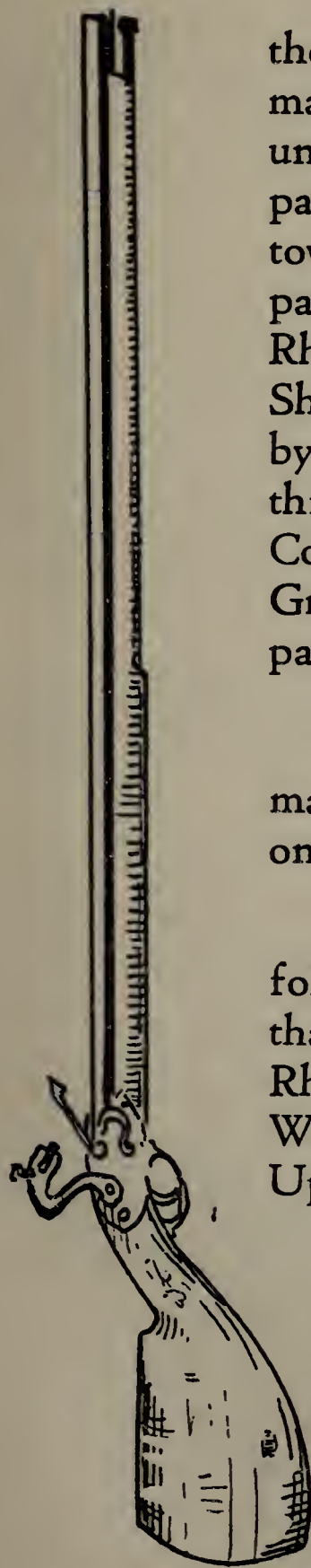
Among the best known of the early commanders were Roger Goulding, Henry Tew, John Dexter, William Hopkins, Nathaniel Coddington, William Wanton, Samuel Cranston, Joseph Jenckes, Nathaniel Sheffield, Thomas Fenner and James Brown.

The year 1714 is a very important one in the history of our military establishment as it marks the organization of our various scattered units into regiments. The Three Newport Companies, the Portsmouth Company, the Jamestown Company and the New Shoreham Company formed the First Regiment, Militia of Rhode Island, under the command of Major Sheffield. The Second Regiment commanded by Major Thomas Fry, was made up of the three Providence Companies, the two Westerly Companies, the two Kingstown Companies, the Greenwich Company and the Warwick Company.

In 1719 the rank of the regimental commander was raised from that of Major to Colonel.

On the roster of these regiments for the following sixteen years may be found names that have come to mean much to students of Rhode Island history: Malbone, Coddington, Wanton, Bull, Fry, Whipple, Hazard, Olney, Updike, Stanton, Crawford, Allen, Jenckes.

In 1719 that which may be regarded as the first of the so-called independent chartered commands was organized under the name of the Providence Troop of Horse. Its officers were Capt. William Crawford, Lieut. John Whipple and Coronet Henry Harris.



In passing, let it be said that the following two hundred eleven years the town or city of Providence was never without a cavalry troop.

In December 1929, a movement initiated by the military authorities of the state, resulted in the abolition of a well organized and efficient cavalry squadron. Traditions were forgotten, sentiment cast aside and the great value of this arm of the service to the state ignored or unrecognized.

In 1730, the King's County Troop of Horse was organized, the first officers of the troop being Capt. Christopher Champlin, Jr., Lieut. William Mumford and Coronet John Hill, Jr.

During this year (1730) due to the great increase in the number of companies organized on the Mainland, the Second Regiment was made up of twenty-three companies, while the First, or Island Regiment, consisted of but six. This resulted in a reorganization in 1731, by which an additional regiment was formed by detaching from the Second the three companies in Westerly, the three in North Kingstown and the two in South Kingstown.

Under this reorganization, Col. William Wanton commanded the First Regiment; Col. Nicholas Power, the Second, and Col. Christopher Allen, the Third.

In 1740, two companies made up of volunteers from the militia entered His Majesty's service against the Spaniards. Capt. William Hopkins commanded the Providence company and Capt. Joseph Sheffield commanded the Newport company.

In 1741, a charter was granted the Artillery Company in the Town of Newport, Jaheel Brenton being the first commander. In 1744, certain inhabitants of the northern towns of the colony petitioned the Assembly for authority to organize an artillery company. The petition was granted upon condition that the members be enlisted throughout the County of Providence and that the name of the organization be The Artillery Company of the County of Providence. This organization continued until 1774 when it became The Cadet Company of the County of Providence. As such it was active for two years.

About this time demand was made for men for the expe-

dition being fitted out to attack Louisburg on Cape Breton Island. Three companies were sent forward under Captains Benjamin Potter, Richard Mumford and Joshua Champlin.

In 1746, the Island Troop of Horse having long since ceased to exist, a cavalry troop was organized in Newport under the name of The Newport County Troop of Horse, the officers being Capt. John Hunt, Lieut. Silvester Woodman and Coronet Richard Greenfield.

This year (1746) finds a substantial increase in the number of companies making up the three regiments. The First Regiment having twelve companies, the Second having twenty-five companies and the Third having thirteen companies.

Again the call for men to join the army marching against the French came to our colony and three companies were furnished. This force consisted of:

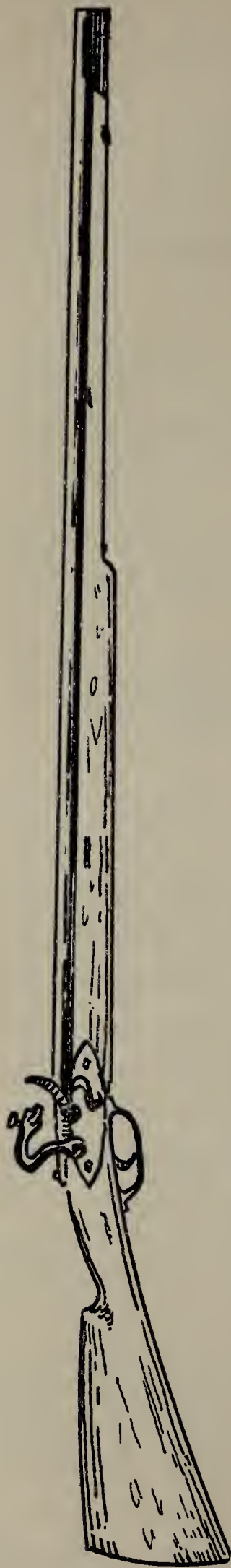
- 1st Company, Newport County, Capt. Joshua Sawyer
- 2nd Company, Providence County, Capt. William Rice
- 3rd Company, at large, Capt. Edward Cole.

Down in the southwestern corner of the colony in 1754 the Westerly and Charlestown Artillery Company was incorporated along the lines of the Artillery Companies of Newport and Providence. In 1761 the organization evidently extended its recruiting area as it adopted the name "Artillery Company of the Towns of Westerly, Charlestown and Hopkinton". Capt. Joseph Stanton was the commanding officer of the Company until it disappeared from the State rolls in 1762.

In 1777 one of the Artillery companies organized for coast defense adopted the name "Independent Company of Artillery of the Towns of Westerly, Charlestown and Hopkinton". Augustus Stanton was the first Captain of this Company. It was in existence only until 1782.

In passing it may be noted that one or both of these companies have recently been resurrected as the ancestor of one of the batteries that now make up the Coast Artillery Regiment of our National Guard.

Four companies were organized this year under Col. Chris-



topher Harris for service at Crown Point. The companies were later on reinforced by two detachments, one of three companies and the other of four.

In 1775 an additional ten company regiment commanded by Col. Samuel Rose was dispatched to Albany and the Independent Company of Newport was organized, with Capt. John Rogers as captain.

During the following year (1756), the war spirit again swept over the colony, the militia law was revised, military organizations were formed in every village and hamlet, and men were being enlisted everywhere for service against the French. A regiment under Col. Governor Stephen Hopkins was sent to reinforce the regiment at Crown Point. In August another regiment was organized and sent to Fort William Henry, under the command of Col. John Andrews. Joseph Wanton was the Lieut. Colonel. The Independent Company of Newport was incorporated with John Rodgers in command.

The Newport Troop of Horse was expanded into two troops, the officers being Capt. Benjamin Sherburne, Lieut. Henry Sowle and Coronet Joseph Sowle of the First Troop and Capt. William Briggs, Lieut. Israel Shaw and Coronet Thomas Church of the Second Troop.

This year we find that famous, or infamous, as the case may be, Rhode Islander, Metcalf Bowler, appearing as an officer of the Newport Artillery.

In 1757 the militia draft was resorted to for the first time. One-sixth of the organized militia was selected by lot and ordered to Albany under Col. John Andrews. A nine

company regiment was raised and dispatched under Col. Godfrey Malbone, of the Newport Artillery, to join the Massachusetts Army being raised for the campaign against the French.

In 1759, a regiment of ten companies under Col. Christopher Harris was formed for the reduction of Montreal.

Our militia organization had become so cumbersome by the addition of newly formed companies that in 1760 each of the five counties was assigned a regiment. The regimental commanders under this reorganization were:

Col. Joseph Wanton, Newport County Regiment
Col. John Andrews, Providence County Regiment
Col. Joseph Hazard, Kings County Regiment
Col. Thomas Greene, Bristol County Regiment
Col. Benoni Waterman, Kent County Regiment

In 1761, The Artillery Company of the Town of Providence was chartered with the following officers:

Capt., Joseph Brown
1st Lieut., Eleazer Harding
2nd Lieut., James Greene
Ensign, Job Smith

The county regiment formation continued without change until 1774 when the rumblings of the impending revolution were so pronounced that the martial spirit of our people was aroused to the point where the most doubting were convinced that war was just beyond the horizon. The Colonial soldier's task had been accomplished and his work was about to be taken up by his brother of the Revolutionary period.

In passing, let us remember that these early Sons of Mars, in their poorly equipped companies, were frequently called upon to render service of the greatest importance to the colony, and that many a life was given up for Rhode Island on battle fields far from its peaceful farm lands and the quiet lanes of its towns.

Many of these soldier boys lie in graves now unmarked and forgotten. In the ranks of these companies were boys and young men who followed the drum beat over the stormy waters and through snow covered forests for the glory of the mother country. Hungry, cold and sick they must have been on the

long weary marches against England's enemies. Let us give them thoughts of gratitude and appreciation as we recall the almost forgotten wars that Rhode Island in the early days was called upon to engage in.

Among the interesting papers carefully guarded by the R. I. Historical Society are the muster and pay rolls of several of these early companies and as one glances over the names of these men who did so much to uphold the honor of Rhode Island in those early days, he is apt to feel that a more substantial memorial should do them honor.

In 1774, we find the militia rapidly expanding, two additional regiments are formed in Providence County, Simeon Potter was commissioned by the Assembly as Major General, commanding the combined militia of the colony, being the first officer to hold this rank.

Four brass field pieces were purchased by the Assembly and assigned to the Providence Artillery Company.

Provision was made in the militia law by which Rhode Island's troops were empowered to march to the assistance of any of the other colonies "when invaded or attacked."

Early in the year a general muster of all county militia organizations was held. In the County of Providence two thousand troops and a troop of horse were inspected. In the County of Kent fifteen hundred men were under arms.

By act of the Assembly, the Providence Artillery Company's name was changed to The Cadet Company of Providence and its charter amended so that thereafter it would be given the right of line in all parades "to avoid any future dispute or altercation".

Many military organizations were formed in the various counties. Charters were issued to:

The Light Infantry Company of Providence, Capt. John Mathewson, the service of which extended from 1774 to 1776;

The Providence Grenadier Company, Capt. Jonathan Arnold, on the rolls from 1774 to 1780;

The Pawtuxet Rangers, Capt. Samuel Aborn, on the rolls from 1774 to 1812 when it became the Pawtuxet Artillery;

The Newport Light Infantry, Capt. Charles Spooner, on the rolls from 1774 to 1776;

The Providence Train of Artillery, Capt. Daniel Tillinghast, on the rolls from 1774 to 1775;

The Providence Fusileers, Maj. Daniel Hitchcock, on the rolls from 1774 to 1775, and to

The Kentish Guards, Capt. J. M. Varnum, on the rolls from 1774 to the present time.

The Scituate Hunters, Capt. Joseph Kimball, was also chartered in 1774 and served until 1778.

In 1791 The Scituate Light Infantry was organized under Capt. Samuel Perry and the following year adopted the name "Scituate Hunters", remaining on the rolls as such until 1795. In 1799 the Company was revived as The Scituate Light Infantry, Capt. Stephen Young, and was part of the militia until 1842.

In addition, charters were also issued to The North Providence Rangers, and The Company of Light Infantry of the Town of Glocester. The Rangers rendered gallant service under Capt. Joseph Olney in 1774 and 1775, under Capt. John Angell in 1776-1778 and under Capt. Hezekiah Smith in 1779, after which date the organization ceased to exist.

The Glocester Light Infantry was commanded in 1774 by Capt. Asa Kimball and throughout the Revolution by Capt. Timothy Wilmarth. The Company went off the military rolls of the State in 1821 and all record of it was lost until a few years ago when it was brought forward as the father of the present Woonsocket Battery of Coast Artillery. At the same time the Rangers were selected as the ancestor of the present Pawtucket Battery.

As can be easily understood, the feelings of the people at this time ran high. Those suspected of disapproving the position taken by the colonists on the important questions of the

day were subjected to daily insult. Their houses were stoned and the more obnoxious Tories were hung in effigy.

Among the latter was Judge Stephen Arnold whose effigy was hung in a tree in East Greenwich amid a general celebration by the town's people. The Judge was a native of Warwick and evidently popular in his home town. He resented the conduct of the people of East Greenwich and gathering together a large number of his fellow townsmen he marched to East Greenwich with the expressed intention of burning that town, thus wiping out the insult offered to himself and to the Town of Warwick.

The affair assumed serious proportions and an appeal for help was made to the Governor, who responded by ordering out militia. This is of interest as being the first occasion recorded of our militia companies being ordered out for the suppression of internal disorder.

The Light Infantry Company and The Cadet Company were rushed down from Providence to support the Sheriff. Upon the arrival of the troops a conference was held. The judge acknowledged his wrong and publicly stated that he was opposed to the taxation of the colonies by England. The mob then dispersed.

General Potter, commanding the militia, was succeeded by Maj. Gen. William Bradford.

In April 1775, The Providence Fusileers, commanded by Major Hitchcock, united with the Providence Train of Artillery, Capt. Daniel Tillinghast, under the name of "The United Company of the Train of Artillery of the Town of Providence," Capt. Tillinghast becoming Colonel, Major Hitchcock, Lieutenant Colonel, and John Crane, Major.

II

THE REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD—1775-1782

When the news of the affair at Lexington reached our colony, naturally great excitement resulted. The militia mobilized and the great march to Boston began. In the ranks were many of the chartered commands in whole or in part. Prominent among them was the Kentish Guards with Nathanael Greene marching as a private.

As you know, these troops were recalled by the Colonial Assembly as they reached the Massachusetts border and our famous "Army of Observation" was created. This surely was a unique organization—enlisted as soldiers of the King to preserve the liberties of America.

It consisted of the Providence Regiment, of ten companies of infantry and one company of Minute Men, commanded by Col. Daniel Hitchcock of the United Train of Artillery, with Ezekiel Cornell as Lieutenant Colonel, a regiment from Kings and Kent Counties of ten companies of infantry and one company of Minute Men, commanded by Col. James Mitchel Varnum of the Kentish Guards, James Babcock serving as Lieutenant Colonel, and the United Train of Artillery commanded by Major John Crane. The Artillery brought along its four brass field pieces and twelve 18 and 24 Pounder guns, much needed by the army.

This brigade was commanded by Brig. Gen. Nathanael Greene of the Kentish Guards.

It is well to keep in mind that this body of troops was the organization which Gen. Washington declared the best equipped and drilled in the entire army.

The strength of the Rhode Island force before Boston was 1700 men. Attention is directed to the fact that Adjutant

Augustus Mumford, a member of the Kentish Guards struck by a shot from a British cannon during the seige, was the first Rhode Islander to be killed in the war.

Throughout the colony new military companies sprang up over night. Most of them failed to obtain charters and after a year or two of service were lost sight of. Artillery companies of 14 men each were created by the Colonial Assembly in all towns along the coast. Alarm companies were organized and manned observation towers from Tower Hill to Woonsocket. All of the chartered companies were enlisted as Minute Men, to perform military service when called upon. They were organized as a regiment with Col. William West in command.

In October, 1775, Major General Joshua Babcock was appointed to command the militia which comprised the following:

Newport County Regiment, 8 companies, Col. John Malbone

Ist. Prov. County Regiment, 9 companies, Col. James Angell

2nd Prov. County Regiment, 9 companies, Col. Chad Brown

3rd. Prov. County Regiment, 6 companies, Col. Christopher Lippitt

1st Kings County Regiment, 10 companies, Col. Joseph Noyes

2nd Kings County Regiment, 9 companies, Col. Robert Brown

Bristol County Regiment, 3 companies, Col. Nathaniel Martin

1st Kent County Regiment, 5 companies, Col. John Waterman

2nd Kent County Regiment, 7 companies, Col. Stephen Potter.

The Assembly granted charters to the Newport Watch Company, Capt. Philip Moss, Lieut. Augustus Newman and Ensign Joseph Crandel, and to The Kingstown Reds, Capt. John Gardiner, 1st Lieut. Thomas Potter, Jr., and 2nd. Lieut. Rowse J. Helme. The "Reds" were carried on the military rolls from 1775 to 1808.

The United Train of Artillery was maintained as an or-

ganization in the militia, Lieut. Col. Levi Hall taking the place of Lieut. Col. Hitchcock and Major Elisha Robinson taking the place of Major Crane.

A regiment of twelve companies and an artillery train was organized under Commander Esek Hopkins to supply a call for Continental troops. Subsequently this regiment became merged with the Rhode Island Brigade. Col. William Richmond was assigned as commander of this force.

Col. Babcock, commanding the 2nd Regiment for Defense, being dismissed from the service upon the grounds of insanity, Lieut. Col. Christopher Lippitt was made Colonel of the regiment. Lippitt afterwards was made Colonel of the 3rd Providence Regiment and later on was placed in command of the 2nd Rhode Island Continental Regiment.

At Newtown, now Wickford, the Updike's Newtown Rangers were organized under Capt. George Babcock and served during the year. The Smithfield and Cumberland Rangers were chartered with Capt. George Peck as first commanding officer.

Col. West's regiment was dispatched to Newport and all of the artillery companies were ordered on duty along the shore.

Upon Gen. Lee's arrival at Providence to assume military command, the Cadets and one of the rifle companies were assigned as his special guard.

During this time Rhode Island troops were enduring great hardships under Arnold at Quebec and our militia was called frequently to the colors to repel landings from the British ships which were cruising about the lower bay. Military activity prevailed throughout the entire colony.

Major General Joseph Nightingale followed Gen. Babcock as commanding officer of the Militia, serving until 1779.

In 1776 an additional militia regiment was organized in Newport, Col. George Irish being the commanding officer. Our militia now consisted of ten regiments of infantry and twelve chartered companies. During the year The Providence Troop of Horse, The Smithfield and Cumberland Rangers, The Kentish Guards, The Newtown Rangers, the Pawtuxet Rangers

and detachments from the Militia Regiments are recorded as performing war service. In addition there was enlisted an eight company regiment, under the command of Col. John Sayles, to serve for three months.

Although it is not the intention to attempt to review the services of our Continental Regiments, it may be said that when, after the abandonment of New York, Gen. Washington made his stand at Murray Hill, along the line of the present 42nd Street, near Grand Central Station, the Rhode Island regiments took a prominent part in the fighting, Colonels Hitchcock and Varnum receiving the commendation of the Commander-in-Chief.

On December 2nd the British occupied Newport. About six hundred militia men stationed on the island retired to the northern end and crossed to the mainland without loss. Intense excitement prevailed, emergency calls were sent throughout New England and to Gen. Washington. The entire state force was mobilized. All of the artillery companies were ordered to the fortifications assigned them along the shore from Point Judith to Providence. Entrenchments were thrown up on Bonnet Point which were constantly occupied by a strong militia force during the period the British remained in Newport.

Part of the 1st Kent County Regiment, Col. Waterman, went into camp at Warwick Neck and also occupied Pawtuxet Neck. The 1st Kings County Regiment, Col. Noyes, entrenches itself on Tower Hill. The 2nd Newport Regiment under Col. John Cook occupied Tiverton, while General West, with a strong force, was at Bristol.

Providence was a great military camp; everyone expected the British to come up the river. The forts guarding the city were strengthened; a heavy chain was stretched across from Fields Point to Kettle Point to prevent the passage of ships; women and children, together with livestock, were removed to the northern villages; educational activities at the college ceased and the college building became a barracks, later on a hospital.

Col. Varnum had been relieved of his command in the Continental Army and had returned to Rhode Island to take command of a brigade of two regiments of infantry and one of

artillery organized "for the defense of the United States and this state in particular" and enlisted for a period of fifteen months. Colonels Benjamin Tallman and Joseph Stanton commanded the infantry regiments, while Col. Robert Elliott commanded the artillery.

The militia regiments and the chartered commands were constantly on duty along the shores of Narragansett Bay.

Major General Lincoln arrived and took command of the army in Rhode Island, with headquarters at Providence. Col. Malmedy, a French officer, was detailed to direct the construction of fortifications about Providence, in order that the possible advance of the British over land to Boston be prevented.

Gen. Lincoln was superseded by Gen. Arnold and plans were made for the organization of an army to attack the British at Newport. The entire militia was called to the colors and awaited the arrival of troops expected from the other colonies. These troops not arriving, the expedition was postponed.

Brigadier General Varnum was recalled by General Washington from state service and was given command of a brigade in the Continental Army. The regiments of his militia brigade remained on duty along the Seaconnet River, Col. Stanton's regiments being at Tiverton. It was from here that the Lieutenant Colonel of that regiment, William Barton, led his famous raid which resulted in the capture of the British commander, Gen. Prescott, on July 9, 1777.

During the year (1777) the South Kingstown Artillery Company was organized and ordered into service. Capt. William Pollock was commissioned as commanding officer, but for some reason was relieved of his command. The organization served under its 1st Lieutenant and its service was short.

The Providence Troop of Horse, The United Train of Artillery, The Cumberland Alarm Company and various militia companies performed meritorious service during the year.

The militia stationed at Narragansett attacked and drove off, with considerable loss, a British landing party in August, while Capt. Dyre's company of Stanton's Regiment crossed from Tiverton and defeated a superior force at Portsmouth.

Brigadier General Ezekiel Cornell was appointed to command the Varnum brigade, his regimental commanders being Colonel Archibald Crary, Colonel William Barton and Colonel Robert Elliott.

In September plans were again made for an attack on Newport, General Spencer being detailed as commanding officer. Massachusetts and Connecticut furnished a large number of soldiers. One-half of the militia of Rhode Island not on duty was ordered out. The combined forces numbered about nine thousand men. From the beginning many delays resulted—preparations were not perfected—boats not supplied in sufficient numbers—lack of confidence in the commanding officer—all combined to cause an abandonment of the attack and the return of the troops to Providence.

In 1778 Gen. Sullivan arrived in Providence, succeeding Gen. Spencer in command of the Rhode Island forces. The British became active along the bay, attacked Warren and Bristol, burning houses and boats. The plan for an attack on Newport was revived. Gen. Greene and the Marquis de Lafayette joined Gen. Sullivan in Providence.

The troops of Glover and Varnum arrived from the Continental Army. The militia and chartered companies were ordered out. Militia from other states assembled at Providence and on August 9, 1778, Sullivan made the crossing from Tiverton. The British retreated down the Island, abandoning their forts at Portsmouth which were soon occupied by the Americans.

Then followed the battle of Rhode Island. Without going into the details of this battle, we can say that the Rhode Island brigade acquitted itself with credit, as did the chartered companies. It is worth while remembering that this battle has been described as the best fought battle of the war.

In this battle two organizations served with exceptional distinction: a small regiment of slaves recruited in Kings and Kent Counties, serving under Varnum, being the first negro organization to perform military service in this country; and the company known as General Sullivan's Life Guards made up mostly of Rhode Islanders, the officers of which were: Capt.

Aaron Mann, 1st Lieut. Levi Hoppen, 2nd Lieut. George Potter and Ensign John Westcott.

After the departure of Gen. Sullivan, Brig. Gen. John Stark took over the command of the army in Rhode Island and directed the movements of the troops on duty.

During 1779 the county regiments were organized into four brigades with Major Gen. Varnum in command. Brig. Gen. William West commanded the Providence County Brigade, Brig. Gen. Joseph Stanton the Kings County Brigade, Brig. Gen. Thomas Holden the Kent County Brigade and Brig. Gen. Nathan Miller the Newport and Bristol County Brigade.

Three militia regiments commanded by Colonels John Topham, Archibald Crary and Robert Elliott were on duty during the Summer and Fall watching the British at Newport.

A corps of Light Infantry was raised for special service along the southern shore under Col. Barton.

Col. Archibald Crary was selected as the first Adjutant General of the State, serving until 1788.

On October 25th the British evacuated Newport and on the following day Gen. Stark crossed from Tiverton and occupied the town. The militia on duty along the coast was dismissed after three years of arduous service and a militia regiment of 630 men was ordered out for a period of three months.

About this time the French Army arrived and went into camp at Providence, where it remained until 1780. With the departure of the French a force of twelve hundred militia men was ordered out to serve one month. General Miller was in command.

When, in September 1781, Arnold attacked New London, the entire militia was called into service. The United Company of the Train of Artillery turned out with four brass field pieces that accompanied the organization to Boston. Two of these guns were afterwards returned to the government and the other two were retained by the company until 1856 when they were loaned to the Warren Artillery Company.

In 1781 The Providence Troop of Horse was again called upon to perform war duty and appears on the rolls as The Captain General's Cavaliers, under Capt. Daniel Manton. As the Cavaliers this organization served as part of the organized militia of the state down to 1836,—a continuous service of over 117 years.

The story of the part played by Rhode Island soldiers in the Revolution is too long to be included in this review, but in passing let us give thought to Capt. Stephen Olney and his men who led the storming party over the works at Yorktown and made the capture of Cornwallis possible. Also, to that body of 250 Rhode Island militia men that formed part of the force selected to garrison the frontier posts, which held in check the dangerous Indian hordes that menaced our northwestern territory and whose services in the wilderness covered a period of three years.

It may be said that every year during the struggle for independence the militia and chartered commands saw service for greater or less periods under the flag of the State. In many instances this service resulted in the merging of the organization into the mass of the army with resulting loss of identity as a distinctive command.

III

DEVELOPMENT OF MILITIA—1782-1840

After the war Gen. Varnum continued in command of the militia, resigning in 1788 when he was succeeded by Major Gen. Joseph Stanton, Jr.

William Barton in 1788 was elected Adjutant General and was followed by George Waterman in 1789.

In 1788 The Washington Independent Company of Exeter was chartered, Capt. Joseph Hammond being the first commanding officer. The company continued in the service of the State until 1829.

The Kingstown Rangers also received a charter this year, Beriah Waite being the first captain. The company disappears from the military rolls in 1812.

During the following year (1789) charters were issued to the Charlestown Independents, Capt. Jonathan Hazard, an organization whose service covered but one year, and to the Coventry Rangers whose first captain was John McGregor, and whose service covered the period from 1789 to 1822.

In 1790 The Cranston Blues were incorporated, Joseph Potter was the first captain of the organization, which existed until 1831. By act of the Legislature the charter of this organization was revived during the World War and the command served as one of the companies in the State Guard.

In 1791 Major Gen. Thomas Holden assumed command of the Militia, succeeding Gen. Stanton. Simeon Martin was elected Adjutant General.

In 1791 charters were issued to:

The Smithfield Grenadiers, Capt. Samuel McClellan, on

the rolls until 1829;

The Governor's Independent Company of Light Infantry in the Town of Providence, Capt. Benjamin Hoppin, on rolls until 1799, and to

The Smithfield Federal Protectors, Capt. Zenas Winsor, on rolls until 1793.

The next year (1792) the following were granted charters:

Glocester Grenadiers, Capt. Joktan Putnam, on rolls until 1795;

Johnston Rangers, Capt. Nehemiah Hawkins, on rolls until 1810;

The Providence Independent Light Dragoons of County of Providence, Col. Ephraim Bowen, continuing in service of State until 1842, a period of fifty years;

The Kentish Troop of Horse, Capt. John Randall, on rolls until 1835, and to

The Washington Cavalry, Capt John Gardner, on rolls until 1841.

The Washington Light Infantry was also organized during the year. After a brief and indefinite career it ceased to exist.

In 1793 we find but one organization receiving a charter, —The Newport Guards, Capt. Wing Spooner. This organization served during the War of 1812 under Capt. James Perry in the fortifications at the entrance to Newport Harbor and disappears from the rolls in 1813.

Major Gen. Simeon Martin, former Adjutant General, succeeded Gen. Holden as Commander of the Militia, and remained in office until 1802.

Robert Rogers served as Adjutant General from 1793 to 1797.

The following year (1794) charters were issued to The Bristol Train of Artillery, Capt. Samuel Wardwell. This organization is still active among the Chartered Commands of the State;

The Cumberland Light Infantry, Capt. Whipple Lovett, on the rolls only three years;

The Tiverton and Little Compton Light Dragoons, Capt. William Humphry, on the rolls until 1824;

The Light Infantry Company of the First Regiment, Capt. Jeremiah Jenks, on the rolls until 1800, and to

The Governor's Independent Company of Volunteers, an off-shoot of the Governor's Independent Light Infantry, Capt. Robert Taylor, Jr., being the first Commanding Officer.

In 1795 but one organization received a charter,—The Ready Volunteers of Bristol, Capt. William Coggeshall. This organization served the State but four years.

In 1796 a charter was issued to The West Greenwich and Coventry Light Infantry, Capt. Thomas Phillips, on the rolls until 1812.

The Kentish Light Infantry, Capt. Job Greene, was chartered in 1797 and continued as such until 1805 when it became the Kentish Artillery, Capt. Benjamin Greene. It remained actively on the rolls until 1833 when it ceased to be part of the militia. In 1853 it was revived under Col. Peleg W. Westcott but at the present time exists in name only.

In 1798 the following organizations came into existence:

The Independent Company of Cadets in the Town of Providence, Capt. George Burrill, on rolls until 1841.

United Artillery Company of Kent County, Capt. Jeremiah Fenner. In 1799 the Company's name was changed to "The United Artillery of Warwick" and as such the Company was borne on the rolls until 1803, and

The Federal Blues of Bristol, Capt. John Stockford, on rolls until 1815.

Daniel Sheldon served during 1798 as Adjutant General.

In 1799 The Governor's Independent Company of Light Infantry and The Governor's Independent Company of Volunteers consolidated under the name of The United Independent

Volunteers, Capt. Jeremiah B. Howell being the commanding officer of the new organization. The charter of the Volunteers was revoked in 1842.

During the year charters were issued to the following:

The Portsmouth Light Infantry, Capt. Peleg Almy, on rolls until 1809;

The Foster Safe Guards, Capt. Francis Fuller, on rolls until 1829, and

The Bristol Grenadiers, Capt. John M. Bourn, on rolls until 1813.

Ebenezer Burrill was elected Adjutant General in 1799 and served until 1803.

The Little Compton Artillery Company received its charter in 1800, Walter Wilbur being its first Captain. The organization existed but two years.

A charter was also granted this year to the Hopkinton Rangers which served the State until 1822, Benjamin Longworthy being the Company's first and only Captain during its twenty-one years' service.

In 1801 the Marine Society of Providence, an association of ship owners, organized The Providence Marine Artillery for the purpose of training young men to handle the guns on the ships of its members. Lieut. Col. Seth Wheaton served as instructor and commanding officer. The charter exempted the members from service in the militia. In due time the organization's original purposes were lost sight of and it took its place among the militia companies of the State.

When organized, the Company was equipped with two 32-pound iron cannon and the men carried short heavy swords. During the Dorr period it was used as infantry and about 1848 became a battery of light artillery, perhaps the first militia battery to be organized in the United States. It is interesting to know that when the first militia battery was formed in Massachusetts in 1850 the officers were sent to Providence to be instructed by the officers of the Marine Corps of Artillery.

In the reorganization of the Militia in 1875 the battery appeared on the rolls as Battery A, Light Artillery, and continued as such until 1917 when it was expanded into a Field Artillery Battalion. In 1929 by the absorption of the Cavalry Squadron it became the 103rd Field Artillery Regiment.

A charter was granted to the Smithfield Grenadiers, Capt. Christopher Dexter, in 1801. The Company was on the rolls until 1830.

From 1802 to 1806 the Militia was commanded by Maj. Gen. William Barton.

Samuel W. Brigham became Adjutant General in 1803 and remained in office for seven years.

During the year 1805 a charter was issued to The Newport Independent Volunteers, Capt. Thomas D. Stall, an organization which remained on the rolls until 1832.

In 1806 John Whipple, Quartermaster General, was commissioned Major General. He served but one year, Gen. William Barton being re-elected in 1807 and serving until 1809.

In 1808 the following organizations received charters:

The Cumberland and Smithfield Light Dragoons, Capt. John F. Walcott, serving until 1830; The Johnston Riflemen, Capt. Emor Winsor, serving but one year; The Portsmouth Light Infantry, Capt. Samuel Cooke, also serving but one year, and The Warwick and Coventry Guards, Capt. James E. Remington, which remained on the rolls until 1816.

The Bristol Light Dragoons were organized in 1808 and disbanded in 1809.

In 1809 Daniel Sheldon, Brigadier General 1st Brigade, was placed in command of the Militia and served until 1815 as Major General.

Nathaniel Searl, Jr. served as Adjutant General from 1810 to 1816.

In 1811 a charter was granted The Warren Light Infantry, Capt. Oliver Johonnot. This organization continued on the rolls until 1833.

During the period covered by the second war with Great Britain, there was great activity among the State's military organizations; volunteer corps were organized and the militia regiments ordered into service to protect our coast from expected attacks by the enemy.

Hazard's Artillery, one of these volunteer companies, was on duty at Westerly and Watch Hill on different occasions during 1812 to 1815. Capt. Joshua Hazard was the commanding officer.

In 1812 The Washington Guards were incorporated under Capt. William B. Maxon. This organization lost its identity after a year's service.

The Union Guards of Providence was organized for the express purpose of manning the fortifications around that city.

Charters were issued to the following in 1813:

The Independent Rifle Company of Cumberland, Capt. Levi Cook, on the State rolls until 1836; The Pawtuxet Artillery, Capt. Philip Bump, which continued in the State's service until 1847; The Civil Guards of Providence, Capt. John Carlile, and The North Kingstown Guards, Capt. Stephen Tefft. These two latter organizations remaining on the rolls during the year only.

In 1814 the following organizations were chartered:

The Sea Fencibles, Capt. Benjamin Pearce, serving until 1815;

The Independent Smithfield Rifle Company, Capt. Thomas Wright, serving until 1815;

The Smithfield Light Infantry, Capt. Jedebiah Carpenter, on the rolls until 1821;

And The Morgan Riflemen, a Glocester Organization under Capt. Anan Evans, which served the State until 1823.

The State's force at this time consisted of a Division made up of the Newport and Bristol County Brigade, commanded by Brig. Gen. Andrew McCorrie; The Providence County Brigade, commanded by Brig. Gen. James B. Mason; the Washington

County Brigade, commanded by Brig. Gen. Joseph Stanton, Jr.; The Kent County Brigade, commanded by Brig. Gen. Christopher Rhodes and about thirty independent chartered commands. Major General Daniel Sheldon commanded the Division.

The following commands were ordered out for war service during the year:

The Portsmouth Company, Capt. John Burrington;

The Middletown Company, Capt. George B. Sweet;

Two Tiverton Companies commanded by Captains Perry Cooke and Samuel Warren;

Three Westerly Companies, commanded by Captains George Sheffield, Joseph Gavitt and Joseph Potter;

Two Charlestown Companies commanded by Captains Joseph Wilcox and Simeon P. Lewis;

The Hopkinton Rangers, Capt. Benjamin Longworthy;

The Sea Fencibles, Capt. Benjamin Pearse;

The Light Infantry Company of Scituate, Capt. Welcome Cole;

And a detachment of the Newport Artillery Company under Harrison Pendleton.

The Special State Corps of four companies was organized and was commanded by Capt. John Wood.

During 1815 and 1816 Maj. Gen. James B. Mason was in command of the Militia. Maj Gen. William C. Gibbs succeeded Gen. Mason, serving until 1821.

Louis Rousmaniere of Newport was elected Adjutant General in 1816.

In 1816 The Scituate and Foster Independent Company of Riflemen was incorporated. Peter B. Remington was its first Captain and the Company appears on the rolls until 1835.

The Independent Company, Sons of Liberty, was granted a charter in 1817, and served the State for one year under Capt. James Brown.

The Cumberland Artillery was organized this year but its record of service is vague and uncertain.

Our present First Light Infantry came into existence in 1818, being chartered as a Company attached to the Second Regiment, its first Captain being Job Angell. In 1844 its organization was changed to that of a regiment, Capt. William Brown, commanding the Company at that time, becoming its first Colonel. It is now in its 112th year of service.

During the same year (1818) The Washington Light Infantry of the Eleventh Regiment was incorporated, Elijah Kenyon being the first Captain. This organization remained on the rolls as such until 1820 when it severed its connection with the regiment and continued as The Washington Light Infantry until 1827.

In 1819 The Burrillville and Glocester Washington United Cavalry, Capt. Eleazer Harris, received its charter and served the State until 1824.

The Greene Artillery Company of the 6th Regiment was also incorporated this year and was on the rolls until 1839. Stephen Tucker was its first Captain. It was attached to the 12th Regiment in 1823.

Bernard Helme of Providence was Adjutant General from 1819 to 1821.

In 1820 the following organizations were chartered:

The First Cadet Company in the 6th Regiment, Capt. Harris J. Mowry, in the State's service five years;

The Washington Guards of the 8th Regiment, Capt. Nathan B. Lewis, carried on the State's roll until 1841, and

The Washington Artillery in 3rd Brigade, Capt. Joseph T. Segar, which went out of existence in 1825.

In 1821 charters were issued to The North Kingstown Volunteers, Capt. Gideon Freeborn, serving until 1828;

To The Scituate Guards, Capt. Robert Bowen, which remained on the military roll of the State for seven years;

To The United Company of Volunteers in the Town of Cumberland, Capt. Ezra Hunt, active until 1830; and

To The Washington Grenadiers, Capt. Joseph Babcock, whose service continued until 1844 when the name of the Company was changed to the Washington Rifle Rangers. In 1846 the command ceased to exist.

In 1821 Albert C. Greene, Brigadier General, 4th Brigade, was commissioned Major General, commanding the Militia. He was succeeded in 1822 by George D'Wolf, former Commander of the 1st Brigade.

Bennett H. Wheeler of Providence served as Adjutant General from 1821 to 1822. He was followed by Josiah Whitaker who served from 1822 to 1823.

The West Greenwich Patriots received their charter as a military organization in 1823 and served until 1833. Nelson Gallup was the first Captain of the Company.

Thomas F. Carpenter became Adjutant General in 1823 and served until 1826.

In 1824 charters were issued to:

The Fayette Rifle Corps of North Providence, Capt. Samuel Jacobs. This Company was carried on the rolls until 1832.

To the Second Light Infantry of the Second Regiment, Capt. William C. Meyer, which served until 1830, and

To the Third Light Infantry of the 2nd Regiment.

The United Volunteers in the Second Regiment and the First Light Infantry in the Fourth Regiment were incorporated in 1825 under Captains Christopher Angell and William P. Munro. The Volunteers served until 1827 and the Infantry disappears from the rolls in 1834.

The Greene Rifle Guards were organized in 1825 but ceased to be part of the militia the following year.

Thomas F. Carpenter, former Adjutant General, commanded the Militia from 1826 to 1831. Levi Haile served as Adjutant General during this period.

In 1829 the Artillery Company of the Town of Foster was incorporated and remained part of the State's force until 1834. Capt. Benjamin Hopkins was its first Commanding Officer.

The years 1830 and 1831 found the militia of the State badly disorganized. Great difficulty was experienced in obtaining competent officers and the regiments were in a low state of efficiency and greatly reduced in membership.

Adjutant General Levi Haile was made Major General in 1831 and served as such for two years. He was succeeded as Adjutant General by George S. Rathbone of Warren.

The Chartered Commands were the only available dependable force, and when in 1831 a serious riot occurred on Olney Lane and on Smith Street in the northern part of Providence, military aid being requested by the sheriff, the First Light Infantry was ordered out. On the following day the Infantry was joined by The Cadets, the Volunteers, the Providence Artillery Company and The Light Dragoons.

The riot lasted three days and ended only when, under the fire of the military, four of the rioters fell mortally wounded on Smith Street near the river.

In 1832 the Gloucester and Burrillville Safe Guards were incorporated, Arnold Pooler being the Captain. After four years the organization disappears from the roll.

The Assembly in 1833 commissioned Edward J. Mallett Major General in command of the Militia.

The Washington Rifle Corps in the 2nd Regiment received its charter in 1833, Seth Wilmarth being its first Captain. It served until 1838.

During 1834, 1835, 1836 and 1837 the Militia was commanded by Major Generals Benjamin B. Thurston, John H. Cross, Edwin Wilbor and Charles T. James respectively.

In 1838 James G. Anthony was elected Major General and served until 1844.

During this period Elisha R. Potter of Kingstown served as Adjutant General. (1834-1837).

In 1835 The City Guards of Providence, Capt. Daniel Angell, was incorporated. Its service covers a period of two years.

Jesse S. Tourtellot of Glocester, Nathan F. Dixon of Westerly and Edward H. Hazard of Providence served as Adjutant Generals during the years 1838, 1839 and 1840.

The First Light Infantry Company in the 15th Regiment, Capt. Wescott Handy, was chartered in 1840 and served but two years.

Elisha Dyer, Jr., of Providence was elected Adjutant General in 1840 and served until 1845.

IV

THE DORR WAR PERIOD—1840-1842

This may be regarded as the most important and interesting epoch in the history of Rhode Island's militia, important enough to warrant the introduction at this point, in order that the military phase of the political situation be understood, of a brief outline of the conditions that prevailed throughout the State during these years. It is during this period that we find the northern section of our State aligned against the southern portion and a state of civil war existing. We find the militia handling an unusual and dangerous situation with determination and considerable ability, and speedily suppressing a widespread insurrection that threatened to overthrow the established government.

For several years the advocates of the adoption of a constitution to replace the King Charles Charter of 1663 had waged an active and vigorous fight in the assembly for a more equal representation for the northern towns and for an extension of the suffrage.

Due to the unequal representation, the Constitutionalists were outvoted on every occasion and it was apparent that no help could be obtained from the Legislature.

In 1840 the Suffrage Association of Providence was formed by many of the most prominent citizens. This society advocated the calling of a convention to frame a constitution. Branches of the organization spread rapidly throughout the northern towns. Petitions were presented to the Assembly. Parades and mass meetings were held. Newspapers and handbills aroused the people and on July 5, 1841 a great demonstration took place on Dexter Training Ground. Some of the Providence militia and two of the chartered military companies acted as escort to the speakers.

Organization being perfected, the Constitutionalists, under the name of the People's Party, proceeded to hold a convention and select candidates for office. Then followed an election at which all citizens over twenty-one years of age were permitted to vote. Thomas Wilson Dorr was chosen as governor and an assembly of ninety odd members was created.

The people were called upon to be ready to enforce the popular will by force of arms, if necessary. The taking over of the state government was openly advocated. Voluntary military companies were organized and arms and ammunition were collected.

The Charter forces adopted the name of The Law and Order Party and elected Samuel Ward King as governor. He at once ordered the militia to be prepared to mobilize on short notice. Recruiting was being carried on in every town and village and the various organizations were parading daily with full ranks.

At this time the militia of the state was organized as a division made up of four brigades. Major Gen. James G. Anthony commanded the division. Elisha Dyer was Adjutant General. The roster of the division was as follows:

(1st) Brigade—Brigadier Gen. Edward F. Newton

(Newport Co.)—1st Regiment, Col. Wm. Swan

10th Regiment, Col. Wilson Osborn

4th Regiment, Col. Thomas G. Turner

(2nd) Brigade—Brig. Gen. Martin Stoddard

(Providence Co.)—2nd Regiment, Col. Vinal N. Edwards

6th Regiment, Col. David W. Aldrich

7th Regiment, Col. John H. Eddy

12th Regiment, Col. Martin S. Paine

13th Regiment, Col. Elihu F. King

14th Regiment, Col. Abel G. Tripp

15th Regiment, Col. Nathaniel H. Short

(3rd) Brigade—Brig. Gen. John B. Steadman

(Washington Co.)—3rd Regiment, Col. Jonathan R. Wells

8th Regiment, Col. Warren D. Lillibridge

11th Regiment, Col. Thomas Hoxie

(4th) Brigade—Brig. Gen. Alphonso Greene

(Kent Co.) —5th Regiment, Col. Robert M. Bennett
9th Regiment, Col. Wm. S. Harris

In addition to the brigaded troops there were fourteen Chartered Commands subject to the direct orders of the Governor.

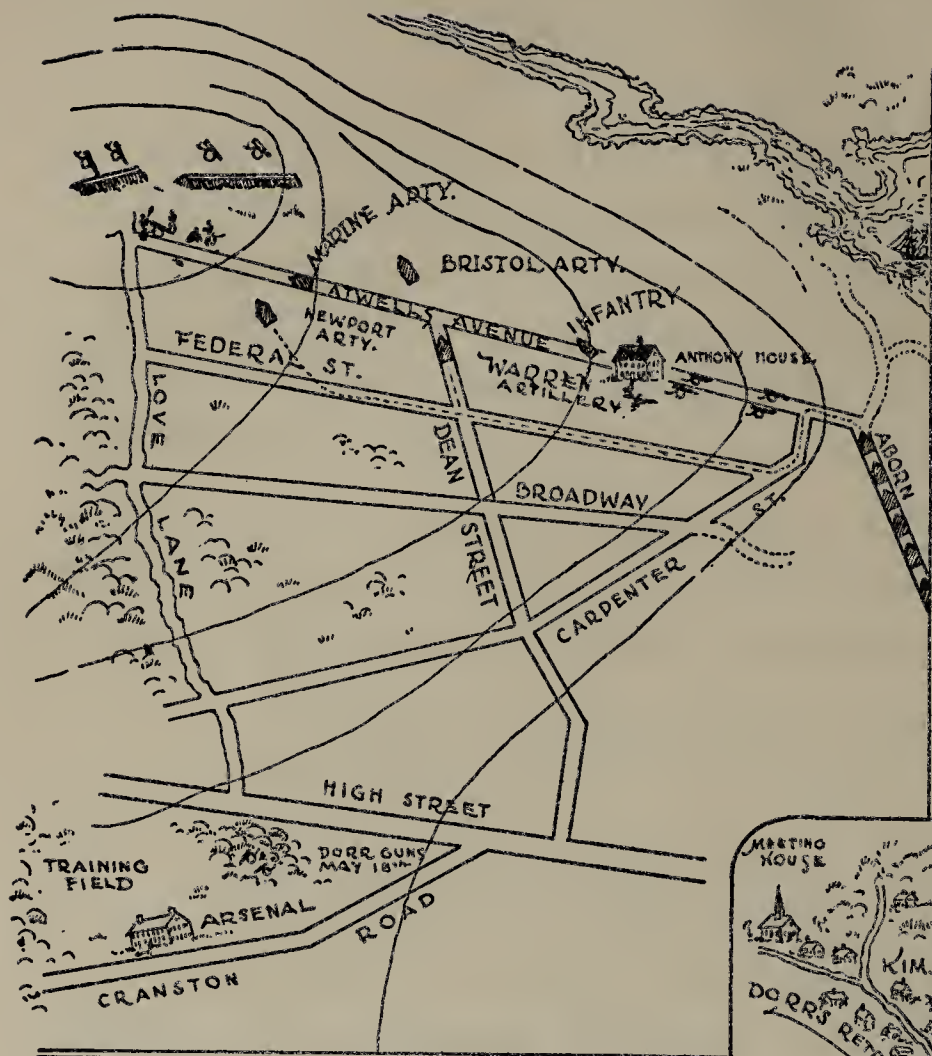
The question as to just how much reliance could be placed upon the troops of the 2nd Brigade gave the charter government considerable concern. Practically all of the regiments of this brigade had companies located in the towns that were in opposition to the established government, and some of the officers of these regiments were pronounced Dorr sympathizers.

The Chartered Commands were regarded as the most loyal of the State's forces and their number was greatly increased by the Assembly during the year, charters being granted to:

The Warren Artillery, Capt. Samuel Pearce;
The Washington Cadets, Capt. George Whitford;
The National Cadets, Capt. Josiah Martin;
The Manville Light Infantry, Capt. Daniel Hall;
The Wickford Pioneers, Capt. George B. Thomas;
The Johnston Guards of the 14th Regiment, Capt. Joseph Lockwood;
The Woonsocket Guards of the 6th Regiment, Capt. Arnold Briggs;
The Sea Fencibles, Capt. Nathaniel G. Mauran.

Of these organizations, the Warren Artillery alone survives, it being carried on the militia rolls of the State at the present time. The Washington Cadets became the Wakefield Cadets, and in 1844 the Company again changed its name to "The Narragansett Guards". It remained in the service of the State until 1861.

The National Cadets ceased to be active in 1847; The Manville Infantry in 1844; the Pioneers remained in service until 1850; the Johnston Guards went off the rolls in 1846, and the Woonsocket Guards formed part of the militia until the various State military organizations merged in the volunteer regiments of 1861.



Positions held by
Law and Order
Troop and the In-
surgents on May
17, 18 and 19, 1842.

(From an Old
Print)

Location of Law and Order
Troops June 28, 29, 1842

Newport Artillery at Meeting
House.

Headquarters and Light Infan-
try at Sprague's.

Warren Artillery and Infantry
at Atwells.

Marine Artillery at Hunts.

3rd Brigade at Sheldons and
Atwells.

Bristol Artillery, Newport Vol-
unteers, Middletown Volunteers,
Barrington Volunteers and Bris-
tol Neck Infantry returned to
Greenville.

(From Military Sketch)



On May 3rd, 1842 great excitement prevailed in Providence. The streets were crowded with people from the nearby towns. All business was suspended. The recently elected People's Party officials were to institute their government.

A large parade formed at the Hoyle Tavern to escort Governor-Elect Dorr and the members of the new General Assembly to the State House. Over two thousand men were in line, including several of the regular militia companies, The United Independent Volunteers and a volunteer troop of horse numbering fifty or sixty men.

The Providence Brass Band led the parade down Westminster Street, across Market Square to Benefit Street and the State House. The doors of this historic building were locked. No attempt was made to force an entrance. Instead the parade returned to Market Square and to an unfinished foundry building at the corner of Eddy and Dorrance Streets, where the assembly organized. Governor Dorr delivered his inaugural address and considerable business was transacted. The First Woonsocket Artillery, Capt. Charles Sanders, was granted a charter and the charters of one or two defunct military organizations were revived.

Although urged to do so by Governor Dorr, the Assembly failed to take possession of the State House and adjourned after two days' deliberations to meet again in two months.

During this time the supporters of the Charter Government under Governor King were in Newport perfecting their organization. It would appear that both parties had reached the point where they were reluctant to make a move that would bring on actual war.

With the adjournment of the People's Assembly, the entire task of setting up the Constitutional Government fell upon Dorr. He hurried to Washington to ascertain the position of the Federal Government on the matter, and then arranged in New York and Connecticut for assistance in repelling possible Federal intervention.

On May 16 Dorr returned to Providence and was met at the railroad station by a force of over twelve hundred men in

a well organized parade. Three hundred armed volunteers, one hundred regular militia men and the Dorr Troop of Horse acted as his personal body guard.

He was escorted to the Anthony house on Atwells Avenue, on the hill above Aborn Street, where he established headquarters. The militia remained as guard at headquarters after the parade was dismissed.

On the following day, it was apparent that a crisis was at hand. A warrant had been issued for Dorr's arrest, but the feeling of the people of Providence was such that service was dangerous, if not impossible.

While the Charter people were hesitating, part of the militia guarding Dorr's headquarters marched through the city to the town house lot off Benefit Street, with the intention of seizing the field pieces and ammunition of the United Train of Artillery.

These guns are deserving of passing mention, having been captured during the Revolution from Gen. Burgoyne. They were given to the Artillery Company by Gen. Washington to replace some guns that had been borrowed from the Rhode Island Artillerymen and lost.

After some argument it was decided to take only two of the guns. In the excitement the ammunition was forgotten. The guns were hauled through the center of the city without interference and with several others were placed in a commanding position in front of the Anthony house.

The Charter Government realized that the time for action had arrived and Governor King issued orders for all militia companies in Providence to be prepared for immediate service. All of the Chartered Commands were directed to assemble in Providence at once. Steamboats were sent at full speed down the bay to bring the troops from the southern towns to the city.

Some of Dorr's advisors realizing the seriousness of the situation began to fear the consequences of their acts. They urged Dorr to postpone his plan of seizing the arsenal, a two story stone building on Cranston Street on the site of the pres-

ent State Armory. He refused to agree to delay, insisting that immediate action was imperative. Plans were also made for taking possession of the college buildings in order that they be used as barracks for the army he expected to raise. It was proposed also to seize the armories of the National Cadets and The First Light Infantry, thus obtaining muskets and equipment for his newly organized companies.

Dorr realized that this must be done before the arrival of the companies from down the bay. Upon the arrival of the of the Woonsocket Infantry, he directed that the attack upon the arsenal be made. At 2 A. M. part of the force assembled at the Anthony house, marched from Atwells Avenue through Love Lane, now Knight Street, to the training ground, approaching the arsenal from the northeast.

The attacking force was led by Col. Wheeler and numbered about 250 men with two field pieces. Governor Dorr accompanied his troops. Although the night was very dark and a heavy fog had set in, the march of the Dorrites had been observed and soon the church bells were ringing out the alarm. The people were aroused and in a short time a large crowd was on its way to the training ground.

Col. Blodgett, with a force of 200 men, was on guard in the building, with cannon trained out of the lower windows. The upper floor was occupied by infantry.

Col. Wheeler deployed his men in groups on different sides of the building and placed his two field pieces in position in a small grove at the eastern end of the training ground. He then demanded the surrender of the arsenal, and when the demand was firmly refused he quietly disappeared in the darkness. Some delay resulted and Dorr finally placed Col. Carter in command. The cannons were ordered fired, but it was found that the touch holes were filled with wet, dissolved powder, making it impossible to discharge them.

The failure to surrender on the part of Col. Blodgett was discouraging to the Dorrites, who began to drift away from their commands throughout the night. When daylight arrived, it was found that but fifty men remained in the ranks and the

order was given to return to the Anthony house. The cannon were soon restored to firing condition and again placed on the Atwells Avenue hill.

On the 18th, the arrival of the Chartered Commands from the southern towns alarmed the Providence members of the People's Assembly, who promptly sent their resignations to Gov. Dorr. Expected reinforcements failing to arrive, Dorr was advised to retire to the north and return when his army was organized. He acted upon this advice and after he had left for Woonsocket, the sheriff arrived on Atwells Avenue with a warrant for his arrest. He was informed of Dorr's departure and was turned back by the guard.

The Constitutional Troops remained at the Anthony House with their cannon covering all approaches. Gen. De Wolf, a prominent figure in State affairs at the time, was in command. A regular guard was established and provision made for feeding the men.

In the meantime the Chartered Commands received orders to dislodge the insurgents. After considerable debate as to which organization should head the column, the honor was thrust upon the Newport Artillery, Capt. William B. Swan.

The march from the city was taken up through Aborn Street to the foot of Atwells Avenue hill. The column halted when in sight of the Dorr cannon. Finally the Artillery prepared to charge the hill. It was then discovered that the cannon had been withdrawn up the avenue to a rather high elevation off Dean Street, to the north and overlooking the city.

Upon this elevation Gen DeWolf at once began the construction of a line of trenches and signalled the city for reinforcements, by several shots from his guns.

The Bristol Artillery, Capt. William R. Taylor, proceeded along Atwells Avenue, going into position at the corner of Dean Street. The Marine Corps of Artillery, Lieut. Col. George C. Nightingale, continued along the avenue until checked by one of DeWolf's guns posted at what is now the corner of Knight Street. The Newport Artillery had taken up a commanding position in the fields west of Dean Street, while the recently

organized Warren Artillery was stationed in the rear of the Bristol Artillery.

A flag of truce was sent forward with a demand for the surrender of the DeWolf forces. A parley followed and the surrender agreed upon conditional with the withdrawal of the guns of the Newport Artillery and of the Marine Artillery from the positions they occupied. When the guns were withdrawn DeWolf at once advanced his guns to cover the positions vacated,—set his met to work on the entrenchments and soon completed a formidable fortification commanding Atwells Avenue and the northern end of Dean Street.

This was, of course, very disturbing to the Charter forces and while they were trying to agree upon the manner of attack, the Dorrites, under cover of darkness, during the night of May 18th, quietly dispersed, leaving their guns pointing over the earthworks. Later on the Chartered Commands moved forward against the unoccupied works, captured the guns and returned to the city. They were shortly afterwards sent to their respective home stations and dismissed.

With the departure of the troops the agitation was renewed. The organizing, marching and drilling of Dorr forces continued. In accordance with the custom of the times high sounding names were adopted by the various companies. Among the most prominent were "Dorr's Invincibles", "Harmonious Reptiles", "Pascoag Ripguts", "The Johnston Savages", "The Gloucester Volunteers" and "The Diamond Hillers".

Woonsocket became the stronghold of the Dorr forces and here was assembled a considerable store of muskets and ammunition. Chepachet and Diamond Hill were armed camps. Strong patrols covered all roads leading from Providence to the north. Travellers were arrested and abused and the revolt was again becoming open and dangerous.

The activity of the mounted patrols on the northern roads led to appeals in the newspapers for the formation of more cavalry companies and in consequence the Burrillville and Gloucester Horse Company was organized for the purpose of keeping the roads open for travellers during the year. A troop was

also organized and chartered in Providence under the name of "The Providence Horse Guards", the following being selected as the first officers: Capt. Almon D. Hodges, 1st Lieut. George W. Hallett, 2nd Lieut. Samuel G. Arnold, 3rd Lieut. William Warner Hoppin and 4th Lieut. John Giles.

Capt. Hodges was prominent in the social and military life of the State and for seven years had served as Colonel of the 2nd Regiment, 2nd Brigade.

This Company was an active unit of the militia until the reorganization in 1879 when it became Company B of the Cavalry Battalion, afterwards Troop B, and continuing as such, with a splendid record, up to its muster into Federal Service in 1917.

During the early part of June, the Constitutionalists were active in collecting arms and ammunition from various sources. During the night of June 19, a raiding party from Providence marched to Warren and attempted to seize the cannon just issued to the Warren Artillery, but were driven off by the inhabitants of the town. A series of raids by the mounted patrols along the Woonsocket Road and on the Douglas Turnpike finally aroused the Law and Order officials to action and a campaign was planned, having as its object the dispersing of the insurgents. The various military companies were prepared for action.

On June 21st, the First Light Infantry of the 2nd Regiment and the 3rd Ward Company of the City Guard were reviewed and made a splendid showing. On the following night, the Dorrites attempted to break into the Armory of the Marine Artillery Company with the intention of seizing the Company's guns, but were driven off.

On the 23rd, the Assembly revived the charter of the Foster Artillery, an organization that had been inactive since 1834. Capt. William Rounds was placed in command of the company with Angell Sweet and Joshua Paine as lieutenants. An unsuccessful attempt was made by the Dorrites to capture guns assigned this company while they were being sent over the road to Foster.

Naturally the conduct of militia organizations suspected of favoring the Constitutional Party was carefully scrutinized. The United Independent Volunteers, Capt. William J. Spencer, and the First Light Infantry Company of the 15th Regiment, Capt. Westcott Handy, were charged with acting as escort to Gov. Dorr, while The United Train of Artillery, Col. George W. Bennett, was accused of negligently or wilfully allowing their guns to be taken by the Dorrites.

In the General Assembly the committee on charters recommended that the charters of these organizations be revoked. On June 25 this recommendation was considered and an act repealing the charters of the Volunteers and the Infantry was passed.

Doubt existing as to the guilt of the Artillery, action on this organization was deferred and steps were taken to at once reorganize the command. Capt. Bradford Hodges, a strong Law and Order man was appointed commanding officer, while Col. Bennett, reduced in rank, was permitted to continue with the company as a lieutenant.

In three days the company mustered sixty "true and faithful" men and was soon regarded as one of the most efficient organizations in the State.

A provisional regiment, made up of four of the chartered companies and the City Guard of Providence was organized for immediate service and stationed on Smiths Hill Common. Capt. William H. Brown, of the First Light Infantry was appointed Colonel of the regiment while Almon D. Hodges was made Lieut. Colonel and Josiah H. Martin Major. George W. Hallett was the regimental adjutant.

On June 24th Governor King declared martial law throughout the entire State. A strong guard was posted at all of the armories and patrol stations were established at strategic points about Providence. The Sea Fencibles, a recently chartered organization commanded by Capt. Nathaniel G. Mauran, was issued six new six pounders and with the National Cadets, commanded by Col. Martin, was stationed at Olneyville Square.

The 1st, 3rd and 4th Brigades of Militia were ordered into

active service together with the chartered commands, and on the 25th the troops began to arrive in Providence.

The Newport Artillery, Bristol Artillery and Warren Artillery, 350 men, armed with muskets and manning seven pieces of field artillery, arrived by steamboat. The Steamer "Massachusetts" reached Providence on the evening of the 24th with 150 infantry men from Newport and Middletown while the "Providence" brought up 260 men from Newport and Bristol.

Troop movements were taking place on practically all of the main highways of the State. Companies from the smaller villages were hurrying to join their regiments at various mobilization points. Officers were rushing about assembling their men and collecting equipment.

The Quartermaster Department was busy day and night issuing arms and ammunition, the arms used by most of the companies being the heavy smooth bore flint lock musket calibre 69 and 70.

Governor King's Council of War, in which there were a number of men from without the State, was in session constantly.

On Saturday, June 25th three thousand troops were assembled in Providence and a review was held on the Common off Smith Street where many of the companies were now stationed.

The Governor and his advisors decided to disregard the existing division and for several days had been perfecting the organization of an army, exclusive of the 2nd Brigade, especially created for suppressing the rebellion.

After the review the composition of this army was announced by General Orders. The officers being as follows:

William Gibbs McNeill, of Stonington, was made Major General Commanding, with the following Aides-de-camp: William C. Gibbs, Newport, Brigadier General; John H. Gilbert, of Newport, Major; William Ennis, of Newport, Major; Mark Anthony DeWolf, of Bristol, Major; John Rivers, of Providence, Major; John H. Clarke, of Providence, Major;

Stephen S. Lee, of New York, Major.

Elisha Dyer, Jr., the Adjutant General of the State, was made Adjutant General of the New Division with Captains Samuel C. Blodgett and Francis E. Hoppin as assistants.

Samuel Ames was appointed Quartermaster General with Captains Rufus Waterman, Thomas W. Setson, Nathan Bishop, Charles H. Mason, Edwin H. Hazard, Henry C. Mathewson, John H. Ormsbee and William H. Potter, assistants.

Henry G. Mumford was Commissary General with Capt. Richard J. Arnold, Assistant. Nineteen deputies were appointed to assist in the work of the Commissary Department.

The Medical Department was carefully organized with Richard Bronell as Surgeon General. Twenty-one physicians were appointed assistant surgeon generals and the Rev. Francis Vinton of Newport was assigned as Chaplain.

Headquarters were established at The Tockwotten House on Tockwotten Street, Providence.

The first order directing the disposition of the troops already under arms, preparatory to a general advance against the enemy, was issued by the Adjutant General from temporary headquarters on Smith Hill at 4 P. M. By it Col. William Shaw, Jr. of the Newport Volunteers was ordered to proceed to Greenville on Sunday, June 26th with a force made up of the Bristol Artillery, Barrington Volunteers, Bristol Neck Infantry, Middletown Volunteers and Newport Volunteers. Col. Shaw marched his command out Smith Street and taking the wrong road at Centerdale proceeded to Fruit Hill where he went into camp on Sunday afternoon.

Col. William W. Brown was appointed to command the force to be assembled at Greenville and began the march to that village on Monday morning with the Marine Corps of Artillery and The First Light Infantry Regiment. He effected a juncture with Col. Shaw's force en route and both commands proceeded to Greenville, arriving there Monday afternoon.

A muster of the troops showed the strength of this force to be 497 men divided among the following companies:

Bristol Artillery, Lieut. Col. Wm. R. Taylor	184 men
Providence Corps Artillery, Lieut. Col. George C. Nightingale	79 men
First Light Infantry Co., Lieut. F. Barber	63 men
Newport Volunteers, Col. Swan	76 men
Middletown Volunteers, Capt. N. Greene	48 men
Barrington Volunteers	32 men
Jamestown Volunteers, Capt. G. Knowles	15 men

Col. William B. Swan, of the Newport Artillery, was placed in command of a force made up of The Warren Artillery, Capt. S. Pearce, 85 men; The Warren Infantry, Capt. Fessenden, 123 men; and the Newport Artillery, Lieut. Col. R. J. Taylor, 137 men; and ordered to march to Scituate Mills at sunrise Monday morning and establish camp.

Brig. Gen. Gibbs of Gen. McNeill's staff accompanied this detachment and was virtually in charge of the movements in the western part of the State. A volunteer company of Cavalry known as "The Light Horsemen", commanded by Capt. Joseph W. Sweet, acted as escort to Gen. Gibbs and also rendered service as scouts.

With instructions to establish a strong line of picket posts along the Connecticut line to Massachusetts, preventing reinforcements reaching the insurgents and intercepting any retreat into Connecticut, Brig. Gen. John B. Steadman, Jr., was ordered to assemble the 3rd Brigade consisting of three regiments with a total of nineteen companies at Hopkin's Mills on Sunday afternoon June 26th.

Brig. Gen. Alphonso Greene, commanding the 4th Brigade, composed of two regiments with a total of 14 companies was directed to join Gen. Steadman with his command.

On the 26th The Rhode Island Carbineers was organized with Samuel T. Thurber as Captain, Edward Burr, First Lieutenant, Louis D. Hutchins, Second Lieutenant and William M. Bailey, Third Lieutenant. This organization was unique in that it was composed largely of Rhode Islanders residing in other states who returned with commendable zeal to serve their native state in its distress. The Company was armed with the new

Colt Repeating Carbine, Model 1836, purchased from a fund raised for this purpose by the loyal citizens of Providence. The headquarters of the Company was in the City Hotel on Weybosset Street.

In order to prevent Massachusetts sympathizers from joining the Dorr forces, Col. George W. T. Allen of the Kentish Guards was directed to proceed with his command, numbering 52 men, to Pawtucket and establish a post at the bridge over the river at the falls. He was soon reinforced by The United Train of Artillery, Col. B. Hodges, 30 men; The Rhode Island Carbineers, Capt. Olney, 44 men; The Tiverton Volunteers, Capt. G. H. Durfee, 57 men, and the Pawtucket and Central Falls Volunteers, Capt. N. A. Potter, 51 men. The total strength of Col. Allen's command was 234 men.

At this point considerable hostility was manifested toward the troops. Some fighting occurred and three men on the Massachusetts side of the river were shot, one being killed.

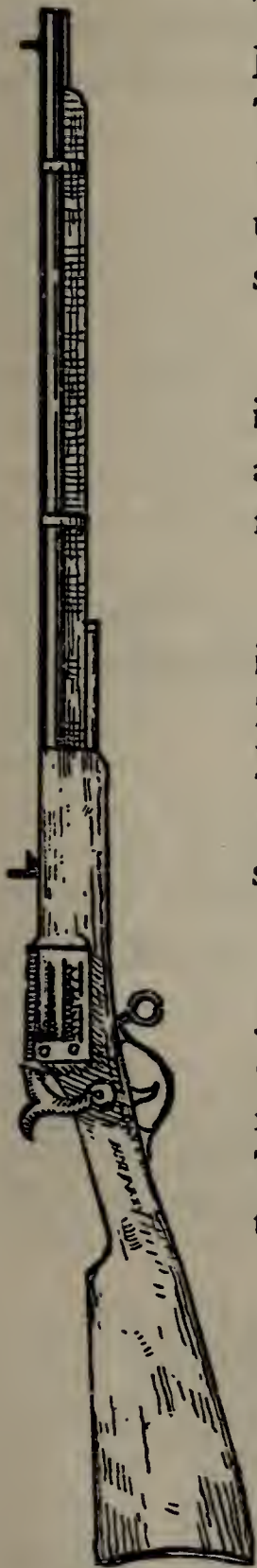
Preparations were made to blow up the bridge if such action was deemed expedient, a force under Zachariah Allen being assigned for this work. However, the determined stand taken by the troops rendered the destruction of the bridge unnecessary.

On Monday, the 27th, orders were issued Col. Josiah H. Martin, commanding the National Cadets to proceed to Woonsocket and assume command of a military post to be established there. Troops were rushed to the northern town and in two days the following organizations had arrived:

National Cadets, Lieut. G. O. Bourne, 92 men

Sea Fencibles, Capt. Nathaniel S. Mauran, 65 men

Providence City Guards, Capt. S. T. Olney, 108 men



14th Regiment, Col. A. G. Tripp, 70 men
Woonsocket Volunteers, 70 men, Captain—————
Making a total of 405 men.

Lieut. Col. Almon D. Hodges of the Providence Horse Gaurds was in charge of the reserve troop stationed at Providence, consisting of part of the City Guard and some of the First and Second Brigade Companies.

During the night of the 27th a severe storm swept over the northern sections of the State and the troops stationed along side the country roads without camp equipage, sleeping in barns and cowsheds and under the trees, spent a most uncomfortable night.

Gen. McNeill apparently satisfied with the disposition of his troops decided to force the issue without delay and dispatched orders to Col. Brown to move forward from Greenville on Chepachet and attack at daybreak the insurgents reported to be entrenched on Acotes Hill. The orders were received by Col. Brown at midnight but the rain-soaked militiamen did not leave Greenville until late in the forenoon following.

The language of this order (No. 38) is interesting and placed considerable discretion in Col. Brown. It contains the following:

“The movements of this command will be made with precaution and an attack will not be made upon the insurgents should they be in too great force to be subdued without reinforcements which will be immediately sent for if required.”

While these movements were under way, Dorr on Monday, June 27, abandoned his works at Chepachet, dispersed his followers and with his more prominent associates retired into Connecticut.

Gen. Steadman experienced some delay in mobilizing his brigade and was unable to begin his march to the position assigned him until Monday noon. Gen. Greene assembled the 4th Brigade at Apponaug and marched it across country to Hopkin's Mills where a juncture was made with Steadman's brigade

Monday night. It would appear that had this force adhered strictly to its orders, Dorr's retreat would have been interfered with and many of the insurgent leaders captured.

The boundary north of Westerly along the Pawcatuck River was patrolled by the Westerly Infantry, a volunteer organization commanded by Capt. William Potter.

In the late afternoon of June 28th, Col. Brown's regiment advanced into Chepachet. Meeting with no opposition the Law and Order forces took possession of the village. Col. Brown established headquarters at Sprague's Tavern and assigned his troop to the following stations: The Marine Corps of Artillery were quartered on Hunt's Farm; The Newport Artillery occupied the meeting house at the northern end of the village; The Warren Artillery together with the Warren Infantry were at the Atwood House, while some of the 3rd Brigade Companies closed in from the west and established headquarters at the Sheldon House.

A reserve composed of the Bristol Artillery, Newport Volunteers, Barrington Volunteers, Bristol Neck Infantry and the Middletown Volunteers remained encamped at Greenville.

The 4th Brigade remained at the camp at Hopkin's Mills and maintained a strong guard on all roads leading into Connecticut.

On the 30th it was apparent that the insurrection was suppressed. All active opposition ceased except in Pawtuxet Village where the Pawtuxet Artillery was kept under arms for several days owing to the activities of the Dorr sympathizers.

The United Train of Artillery, Kentish Guards and the Carbineers remained in Pawtucket until July 1st when they returned to Providence. On the same day the Cadets of Sea Fencibles left Woonsocket.

The Chepachet and Greenville troops marched over Smith Street into Providence with a considerable number of prisoners rounded up in Chepachet and the surrounding country.

By July 2nd all of the troops had returned to their home stations and had taken up their civilian pursuits.

The Assembly passed an act amending the charter of the United Company of the Train of Artillery by which the name of the organization was changed to "The Providence Artillery Company."

Most of the volunteer companies soon ceased to exist although a few obtained charters and continued to render service to the State.

V

THE FIVE BRIGADE PERIOD—THE CIVIL WAR AND REORGANIZATION—1843-1878

In 1843 the militia consisted of five brigades, an additional one having been organized in Bristol County under the command of Brig. Gen. Guy M. Fessenden. In addition there were twenty independent chartered organizations not assigned to any of the brigades. Maj. Gen. James G. Anthony commanded the combined forces.

During this year (1843) the Rhode Island Guards were chartered. Capt. John C. Harris was the first commanding officer of this organization which continued as part of the militia until 1850 after which it became inactive.

The Rhode Island Horse Guards, organized in Portsmouth, also received a charter, with Capt. Nathaniel Greene in command. After five years service the company disappeared from the rolls.

Major. Gen. John B. Steadman, former commander of the 3rd Brigade, was in command of the military establishment from 1844 to 1848. The only change in the composition of the militia during this period occurred in 1845 when The Washington Grenadiers became The Washington Rifle Rangers. Col. Samuel P. Champlin commanded the organization which was disbanded after one year's service.

Maj. Gen. Steadman resigned in 1848 and was succeeded by Thomas J. Stead, for years Quartermaster General of the State. Gen. Stead declined to qualify for the office and Amos D. Smith was elected in his place.

In 1854 charters were granted The Mechanics Rifles, Capt. John H. Slocum, and to the Westerly Rifles, Col. Henry

C. Card. During the year the Guards of Liberty were organized with the following companies: Second Company, Capt. Welcome G. Comstock; Third Company, Capt. Theodore Winn; Fourth Company, Capt. Charles A. Howland; Fifth Company, Capt. Daniel Briggs; Sixth Company, Capt Charles H. Potter.

The Third Company, commanded by Capt. Winn, later on obtained a charter under the name "Providence City Guards."

The Guards of Liberty went out of existence after one year's service while the City Guards were disbanded in 1858.

From 1854 to 1857 the militia was under the command of Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside.

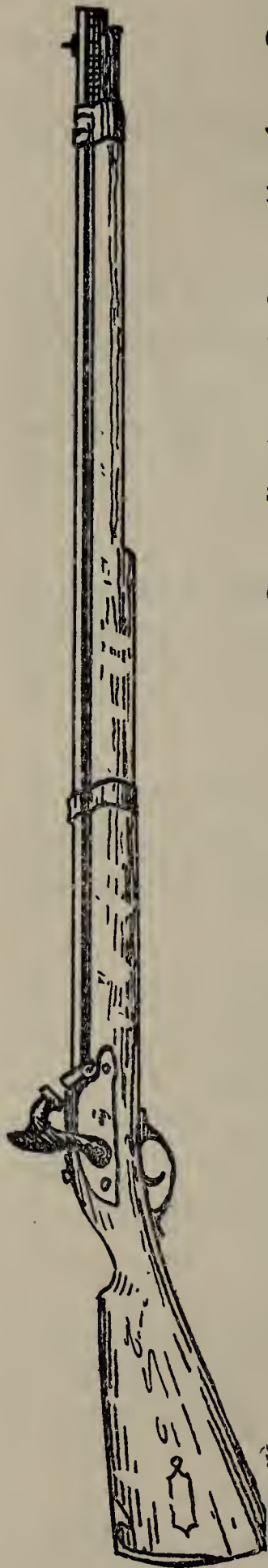
Edward C. Mauran was elected Adjutant General in 1855 and served twenty years.

In 1857 The Pawtucket Light Guard received its charter, Col. Stephen R. Bucklin being its first Commanding Officer.

Naturally the years leading up to the war between the States was productive of much interest in military affairs. Volunteer companies were being formed and there was much drilling and marching in all sections of the State. Most of the troops were armed at this time with heavy muzzle loading percussion cap muskets of large calibre.

During 1857 and part of 1858 Col. William W. Brown of the First Light Infantry was in command of the militia as Major General. He was succeeded by John Gould who served until 1863.

In 1860 a new militia law was enacted. Although the strength of the regular militia was but 2339 officers and men, the five brigades were retained.



The West Conaug Guards of Clayville, organized in 1859, were chartered as The Scituate Rifles with Col. Henry S. Olney as the first commanding officer, and was disbanded in 1865.

In 1861 charters were issued to The Red Bank Infantry, Lieut. Col. Aram W. Colvin; The Pettiquamscutts Infantry, Lieut. Col. Elisha C. Clarke, and The Narragansett Guards, formerly the Wakefield Cadets, Col. Leonard Arnold. The charter of the last named organization was "abrogated" in 1863.

By the militia law of this year, the volunteer companies not already enrolled in the different brigades were organized into battalions and regiments forming the basis of a separate military force. This organization grew rapidly and was known as the "National Guard", being the first body of troops in our State to be so designated.

In the aggregate the strength of this organization was 3100 men. Practically every town and village in the State was represented in the Guard.

In Providence each of the seven wards supplied a company and in addition the City furnished The Washington Continentals, The Ellsworth Phalanx, The Burnside Zouaves and a battery of Light Artillery.

Six companies, including The Sprague Zouaves, were located in Newport, while Middletown, Fall River and Portsmouth each had one.

North Providence had the Slater Drill Corps and Pawtucket Home Guard. Lonsdale, Slatersville, Scituate, Georgiaville, Greenville, Johnston, Cranston, Foster, Chepachet, Harmony and Cumberland supplied one company each.

Companies were also located in Riverpoint, Apponaug, Hopkinton, Old Warwick, Natick, East Greenwich, Fiskville, Coventry Center, Bristol, Warren and Barrington.

Although this organization was not completely equipped with arms and uniforms, it attained a fair degree of efficiency, spending considerable time in drilling and parading. It served as a great training school and furnished many officers and men to the volunteer regiments organized later on.

It is well to remember that the first regiment of troops sent from this State to Washington in response to the call of the President was a militia regiment made up of companies furnished by the Newport Artillery, Providence Artillery, First Light Infantry (2), Mechanics Rifles (2), National Cadets and the Marine Corps of Artillery.

In 1862 a charter was granted to the Sarsfield Guards of Providence, Col. Joseph Graves, and The Pawtucket Light Guard was expanded into a battalion with Olney Arnold as Colonel.

The Sarsfield Guards were disbanded in 1865 while the Pawtucket Light Guard continued on the roll until 1875.

The regular militia this year was made up of the chartered commands only and practically all of the companies were called upon to perform guard duty at various times at the military hospitals.

In 1863 the militia was again reorganized. The entire enrolled militia, practically every able-bodied citizen of military age, was assigned to regiments and brigades. Over 20,000 men thus became members of the State's force. Many of these regiments were fully equipped and some uniformed. Drills and reviews were well attended and great interest shown. The entire State was a vast military establishment. Maj. Gen. Chas. T. Robbins, former commander of the 2nd Brigade, was in charge of all the troops, succeeding Gen. Gould.

Charters were granted to the Pawtucket Cavalry, Capt. Charles N. Manchester; Woonsocket Cavalry, Capt. Oscar J. Rathbun, and to the Pawtucket Light Battery, Capt. Pardon Mason. The Woonsocket Cavalry remained on the rolls until 1870.

Among the companies organized were the New Shoreham Heavy Artillery, Capt. John W. Hooper; The Newport Infantry, Capt. George T. Downing; The Warren Infantry, Capt. John P. Abbott, and The Bristol Colored Infantry, 1st Lieut. Daniel Hazard.

In December the anti-militarists prevailed upon the General Assembly to repeal the militia law and to revive the im-

practical and obsolete law of 1856. The result was the disbandment of the splendid force which was preparing itself for future demands upon the State by the Federal Government.

Olney Arnold who had commanded the 4th Brigade was commissioned Major General in 1864 and a law was passed authorizing the recognition of volunteer companies as part of the militia and correcting to some extent the defects in the law of 1856.

Many volunteer companies were formed, among them being the Woonsocket Light Artillery, George M. Grant, Captain; Tower Light Artillery, Samuel S. Colyer, Captain; The Union Guards, Lysander Flagg, Captain and the Woonsocket Rifles, Captain———. The Woonsocket Light Artillery was disbanded in 1875.

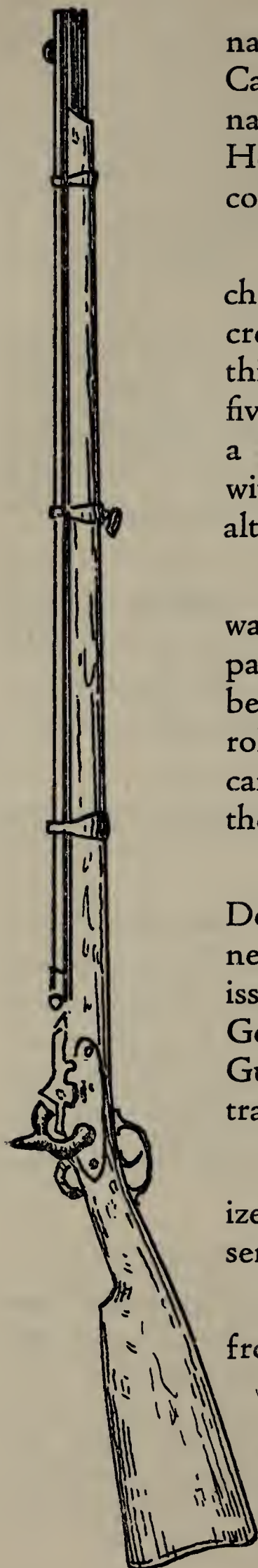
Charters were issued to the Seminary Guards of East Greenwich, Samuel W. K. Allen, Colonel, and to the West Greenwich Cadets, Amos R. Sweet, Colonel. The Guards were disbanded in 1869 while the Cadets remained on the rolls until 1874.

The Red Bank Infantry surrendered its charter and ceased to be part of the militia this year (1864).

In 1865 the Rhode Island Guards were reorganized as a regiment, with Jeremiah Costine as Colonel. The companies composing the regiment were: The Meagher Guards, (Co. A) Capt. Peter McHugh; The Sheridan Guards (Co. B), Capt. John Cullen; The Kearney Light Infantry (Co. C), Capt. Patrick Cosgrove; The Emmet Guards (Co. D), Capt. John E. Curran, and The Mitchell Guards (Co. E), Capt. Philip Whaland.

The Spragueville Light Infantry, Charles O. Bennett, Captain; The Smithfield Rifle Company, P. H. Hall, Captain; and the Newport Light Infantry Company, George W. Tew, Captain, were also organized during the year.

The Spragueville Company was disbanded in 1868, the Rifles in 1874 and the Newport Infantry as Company B, 2nd Regiment, in 1898.



The Pawtucket Cavalry Company was renamed The North Providence and Pawtucket Cavalry and was carried on the rolls under this name until 1871 when it became The Pawtucket Horse Guards, Capt. Frank M. Bates being the commanding officer.

The militia of 1866 consisted of twenty chartered organizations and fifteen companies created under the militia law of 1864. These thirty-five companies were apportioned among five brigades, each of which was commanded by a Brigadier General. The troops were armed with smooth bore muskets, calibre 50 and 58, altered from percussion cap to breech loaders.

The formation of the Rhode Island Guards was changed from a regiment to a seven company battalion. Two new companies, F and G, being organized. Company F remained on the rolls until 1868, while Company G in 1868 became the Bristol Light Infantry. Major Matthew Curran commanded the battalion.

The Aquidneck Rifles, Capt. William K. Delaney, and the Slatersville Rifles, Capt. Fenner Colwell, were organized, and charters were issued to the Newport Light Infantry, Col. George W. Tew, and to The Smithfield Union Guards, organized as the Union Guards at Central Falls in 1864, Col Lysander Flagg.

The Newport City Guard was also organized this year and was disbanded after a year's service.

The Pettiquamscutt's Infantry withdrew from the militia by surrendering its charter.

In 1867 The Burnside National Guard, a colored battalion of four companies, one of which was located in Newport, was organized under Col. Lewis Keneggee.

The Second Light Infantry of Providence, Capt. Nathaniel D. Bates, and the Lonsdale Light Infantry, Capt. Charles E. Gueld, also came into existence this year. The Providence Company was dropped from the rolls in 1869 while the Lonsdale Infantry in 1871 became one of the companies of the Rhode Island Guard Battalion, being disbanded in 1875.

The Slatersville Rifles were disbanded in 1867 and the Spragueville Light Infantry in 1868.

In 1869 Maj. Gen. Olney Arnold retired and Horace Daniels was chosen to succeed him, serving until 1874.

By act of the General Assembly the Providence Artillery was renamed the Burnside Zouaves. In 1870 by an amendment to the charter of the organization its original name of "The United Company of the Train of Artillery" was restored to it and as such the organization has since been part of the militia of the State.

The Kearney Cadets were chartered in 1870 with Capt. Michael Munnege as the first commanding officer.

This year the name of the organization known as The Mechanics Rifles was changed to The Slocum Light Guard in honor of Col. John Slocum, the Company's first captain, and in 1872 the Smithfield Union Guards became the Lincoln Union Guards.

Many of the militia companies were reorganized in 1873. Among them were the Tower Light Battery and the Woonsocket Artillery. These two organizations with the Providence Marine Corps of Artillery formed the 1st Battalion of Light Artillery, commanded by Lieut. Col. Lyman B. Goff.

In 1874 Maj. Gen. William R. Walker assumed command of the Militia Division, made up at this time of three skeleton brigades. The absurdity of the organization was demonstrated at the muster of the troops this year when the First Brigade paraded with five organizations and the Third with but three. The Second Brigade turned out with twenty companies in line.

Many of the organizations paraded with full regimental staffs. Attached to the division were three light batteries and

three cavalry companies.

In 1875 Heber LeFavre of Pawtucket was elected Adjutant General and served three years.

The West Greenwich Cadets and The Smithfield Rifles were disbanded and the general disorganized condition of the militia resulted in a drastic reorganization this year.

By this reorganization the three brigades were merged into two of three battalions each. Several companies including the Woonsocket Light Artillery, Acquidneck Rifles, Kearney Cadets and Companies F and H, Rhode Island Guards, were disbanded.

The Westerly Brass Band was selected as the band of the Division and Joseph A. Sheffield was appointed Band Master with the rank of 2nd Lieutenant.

The Rhode Island Guards under the reorganization was designated as The Fifth Battalion and continued as such until 1887 when it became the Second Regiment.

The Cavalry was formed into a battalion made up of companies A and B (Providence Horse Guards) and Company C (Pawtucket Horse Guards) under the command of Col. C. Lippitt Snow.

The First Battalion of Light Artillery, consisting of Battery A (Providence Marine Corps Artillery) and Battery B (Tower Light Battery) was commanded by Lieut. Col. Elisha Dyer, Jr.

The law providing that all commands not expressly exempted by their charters be assigned to either of the brigades was not favorably received by some of the chartered organizations. Three companies refused to comply with the law. The Lincoln Union Guards and the Pawtucket Light Guard by vote disbanded rather than become part of a brigade.

The Kentish Guards were assigned to the 3rd Battalion as Company C. The organization ignored all orders issued under the law, claiming charter exemption. The Adjutant General, Heber LeFavre, reported that the Guards had forfeited all rights under their charter by reason of being inactive from 1832 to 1853 and by failing to file the required election returns in his

office. He accordingly assigned the company to the 3rd Battalion as Company C and appointed an officer to take command. The officer in command under the charter refused to turn over the records or property of the organization and the officer appointed by the Adjutant General was unable to take over the command. Although the Adjutant General recommended disbandment the Assembly refused to act in the matter and the Guards continued to function as an independent organization.

As a matter of fact the records show that the Guards were not inactive during the years stated, having performed duty during the Dorr War and having filed each year the election return of its officers in the Secretary of State's office, as required by its charter, and being carried on the register of companies on file in the Adjutant General's office during the period in question. Strange as it may seem, it would appear that the Adjutant General confused the Kentish Guards with the Kentish Artillery which ceased to exist in 1833 and was revived about 1853.

The Newport Artillery, Bristol Artillery, Marine Corps of Artillery, United Train of Artillery and the First Light Infantry were held to be, by reason of their charters, independent of the brigades and subject to the orders of the Governor.

In 1876 the entire Division was assembled for muster in Providence. The troops paraded to the Dexter Training Grounds under the command of General Walker. As all of the companies provided their own uniforms, free from restrictions of any sort as to style or color, the review which followed the parade was a gorgeous spectacle. No two organizations were uniformed alike, each endeavored to surpass the other in brilliancy. There were coats of red, of gray, of white and of blue; epaulets of varied colors, gilt shoulder scales and white cross belts bearing elaborate crests and monograms; headgear of all descriptions, helmets of metal and fur, shakos, high caps, huge bearskins, all uncomfortable and unserviceable. The arm carried was the 50 calibre Springfield musket of Civil War days.

On June 28, 1877 President Rutherford B. Hayes visited Providence. The entire uniformed militia was mobilized and a

review tendered the President on the Training Ground. The Newport Artillery and the First Battalion of Infantry served as personal escort to the President and later on the Artillery accompanied him to Newport.

During this year the 3rd Battalion, reduced to two companies, was consolidated with the 2nd.

VI

THE BRIGADE, RHODE ISLAND MILITIA, 1878-1898

Interest in rifle shooting was aroused in the various companies in 1877 although no provision existed in the law for rifle practice. A small group of enthusiastic marksmen organized a rifle team and accepted an invitation to participate in the Interstate Military Rifle Match held at Creedmore, New York. All expenses of the team were borne by the members, assisted by contributions from interested citizens. New .45 Calibre breech-loading Springfield rifles, model 1873, were furnished the team by the State.

The match was shot at 200 and 500 yards. The Rhode Island team made a splendid showing considering their lack of practice, being beaten only by New York, Connecticut and New Jersey.

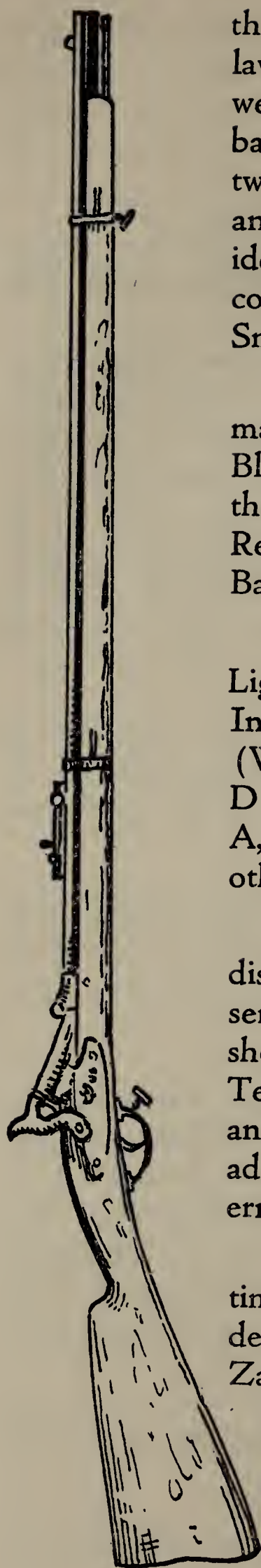
Capt Bartholomew McSoley of the Rhode Island team won the "Judd Match" over a field of two hundred competitors.

The names of the members of the team and their companies are as follows:

Capt. Bartholomew, Lieut Joseph Stringer, Lieut. George A. Forsyth, Sergt. G. W. Barry, Sergt. J. T. Williams, Private Charles C. Gray, Private E. E. Roffes, Private (formerly Captain) W. B. W. Hallett, all of Company E, 2nd Battalion; Lieut. B. L. Hall and Sergt. Joseph Baker of Company A, 1st Battalion; Sergt. A. P. Johonnot and Private G. R. Taylor of Company B, 1st Battalion, and Bugler A. L. Sweet of Battery A. Private Gray served as team captain.

In 1878 C. Henry Barney of Providence was elected Adjutant General.

1879 may be regarded as another very important year in



the history of the State's forces. A new militia law was enacted under which the two brigades were consolidated into one composed of five battalions of Infantry, a Cavalry battalion of two troops A—Pawtucket and B—Providence, and one Battery of Light Artillery, A of Providence. The Fourth Battalion consisted of two colored companies commanded by Major Albert Smith.

Brig. Gen. Elisha H. Rhodes was in command of the brigade while Major George N. Bliss and Capt. Horace G. Peck commanded the Cavalry and Artillery respectively. D. W. Reeves was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant and Band Master.

In forming the new brigade the Tower Light Battery was changed to the Tower Light Infantry; Companies B (Pawtucket) and E (Woonsocket) of the 5th Battalion, Company D (Newport) of the 6th Battalion and Company A, Cavalry (Providence) were disbanded while other companies were consolidated.

The State issued new blue uniforms with distinctive trimmings for the various arms of the service to all of the companies and the old showy independent uniforms were abandoned. Tents, rubber and woolen blankets, knapsacks and camp equipage were provided and the brigade began to take on the appearance of a modern military organization.

On September 2, 3 and 4th for the first time in its history Rhode Island's militia was under canvas in a training camp. Camp Van Zandt was established at Oakland Beach, where for three days regimental and battalion drills and reviews were held.

In 1880 more progress towards efficiency was made. The brigade encampment was ex-

tended to five days and the Cavalry was supplied with new Springfield carbines Calibre .45.

The following year, 1881, the 3rd Battalion was dissolved. Two of its companies, located at Apponaug and East Greenwich, were disbanded and the two located at Westerly were transferred to the 1st Battalion.

A Signal Corps of five men was organized and attached to the brigade. William B. Mason was commissioned Captain and Signal Officer.

It may be said that 1881 marks the beginning of field training in the brigade. At the end of the encampment the troops were marched back over the road from Oakland Beach to Providence, engaging in what was called a "Sham Battle" en-route.

Gen. Barney resigned as Adjutant General on December 31, 1881 and the Governor appointed W. W. Douglass to fill the vacancy. In February 1882 Elisha Dyer, Jr. was elected Adjutant General, serving until 1895.

In 1883 Maj. Alexander Strauss succeeded Major Bliss in command of the Cavalry.

In 1884 new .45 Calibre Springfield rifles were issued to the entire brigade and training in marksmanship was beginning to be regarded as of considerable importance.

A 200 yard range was established on the farm of J. C. Dexter in Cumberland, near Valley Falls. A mess hall and kitchen were erected and two targets installed. Capt. John Howe, Brigade Engineer, was appointed Rifle Instructor and a season of twenty firing days was ordered.

Eighteen companies of Infantry and two companies of Cavalry reported for practice. A total of 511 officers and men shot, a record that exceeds that of some recent years.

During the following year (1885) the number of Infantry battalions in the brigade was reduced to four, and a machine gun platoon, under Lieut. William Ely, was organized.

Complaint having been made of possible danger in the use

of the rifle range as laid out, shooting was suspended until such time as the Assembly saw fit to appropriate funds for the work required to make the range more safe.

In 1887 the separate battalion formation of the Infantry was abolished and two eight company regiments and two separate companies were formed.

The First and Second Battalions were consolidated and organized as the 1st Regiment of Infantry, Brigade Rhode Island Militia (B.R.I.M.) under Col. William Thornton.

The Fifth Battalion, the old Rhode Island Guards, was re-organized as the 2nd Regiment, the companies being shifted about and re-lettered. Company A. (Meagher Guards) was changed to Company E; the Warren Infantry became Company A; Company B became Company F (Wolf Tone Guards); the Newport Infantry became Company B; Company C (Kearney Light Infantry) was changed to Company G; Company D (Emmett Guards) became Company H; the Woonsocket Rifles became Company D and the Bristol Infantry became Company C. Col. James Moran was in command of the regiment.

The Fourth Battalion (colored) was disbanded and its two surviving companies were carried on the roll as the First and Second Separate Companies. Capt. William H. Beckett commanded the First and Capt. Stephen J. West commanded the Second.

Field Maneuvers were established as part of the regular training of the brigade in 1889, and for many years thereafter problems in attack and defense were included in the work of the annual encampment.

The entire militia paraded in Pawtucket during the cotton centenary celebration in September 1890 as two brigades, one under Gen. Rhodes and the other composed of the chartered commands under Col. C. M. Van Slyck of the United Train of Artillery.

In 1891 the first Naval Reserve Company in the State was organized in Bristol under Lieut. William Hodgkinson, and the Machine Gun Platoon was expanded into a four gun battery.

Gen. Rhodes retired as Brigade Commander in 1892 and Hiram Kendall was elected to succeed him.

This year (1892) the camp ground heretofore used having been platted into houselots was not available for military use. In consequence the brigade was obliged to pitch its camp in the potato and corn fields of the Wilcox farm, northwest of Oakland Beach.

In place of the Brigade Band each regiment was allowed one band of twenty musicians.

Through the courtesy of the Officers Rifle Association, this year the militia was enabled to resume rifle practice. The private range of the Association at Sassafras Point was opened to the State's soldiery. Capt. George A. Forsyth was appointed Instructor of Rifle Practice with Frank Harcourt as assistant. One hundred and two hundred yards were shot over and a total of but seventy-three officers and men made the required qualification. This range was used for five years.

The second Naval Reserve Company was organized in Newport in 1892. Lieut. H. L. Willoughby was the commanding officer.

In 1893 the State purchased, as a permanent camp ground, the Reynolds Farm, a tract of 225 acres, located at Quonset Point in the Town of North Kingstown.

In 1894 Company A, 2nd Regiment, of Warren, was disbanded. A new Company A was organized in Olneyville under Capt. John Kelly.

In 1895 the efficiency and morale of the Second Separate Company (colored) having reached a very low state, the Company was disbanded. Companies E and F, 1st Regiment, located in Westerly, were consolidated as Company E.

This year the State manifested its appreciation of long and faithful service in the militia by the inauguration of a long service medal issued to all who had served seven years continuously.

Upon the resignation of Adjutant General Dyer in October, Hunter C. White was appointed to fill the office until the

election of Frederic M. Sackett on November 4th.

The Hospital Corps, heretofore composed of the Hospital Stewards of the brigade, with a detail of privates from the different organizations, was made a permanent company in 1896 with N. Darrell Harvey as Captain.

The third Naval Reserve Company was organized in Providence this year (1896). Lieut. George N. Eiswald was the first commanding officer.

In 1897 the land used as a rifle range at Sassafras Point, being no longer available, a tract was leased at Rumford, where ranges up to 1000 yards were laid out. This was subsequently purchased and became the State's permanent rifle range.

Major George S. Tingley succeeded Major Strauss as Commander of the Cavalry Battalion.

VII

THE SPANISH AMERICAN WAR AND PAWTUCKET STRIKE — 1898 - 1907

Early in 1898 the fourth Naval Reserve Company was organized in East Providence. Lieut. Samuel Brigham was the commanding officer. Lieut. W. McCarthy Little commanded the Battalion formed from the four existing Naval Reserve companies.

In 1898, in anticipation of war with Spain, plans for the protection of our coast by the militia of the State were perfected. Arrangements were made for quartering the Second Regiment of Infantry, Battery A, and the Machine Gun Battery on the lower end of Conanicut Island with State and Brigade Headquarters at the Gardner House. Headquarters and one battalion of the First Regiment, together with one troop of Cavalry were assigned to Newport, while the other battalion of the regiment and the other troop of Cavalry were to be stationed at Narragansett Pier.

When the call for troops finally came it was deemed necessary that the militia organizations be preserved in order that the State's defense plan be not interfered with. Accordingly members of the militia as individuals were invited to enlist in a twelve company regiment which was to be formed at Camp Dyer, Quonset Point. Enlistments from all organizations followed. Thirty-six officers and three hundred ninety men of the militia enrolled in the regiment.

Company A, First Regiment, Capt. Charles F. Tillinghast, enlisted in a body. The major part of Companies B and E, 1st Regiment, with their officers, were soon in camp as part of the new regiment.

Company B, 2nd Regiment from Newport, reported with full ranks for muster into the regiment but owing to the failure of certain officers to be accepted, returned home. In consequence the company was disbanded for unmilitary conduct shortly afterwards. Its place in the brigade was filled by the organization of a new Company B recruited mainly from the South Providence Cadets under Capt. Malachi Kelly.

Due largely to the great interest and untiring efforts of the Governor of the State, Elisha Dyer, and its commander, Col. Charles W. Abbott, this regiment in a very short time was completely armed and equipped, and became recognized as one of the best regiments in the service.

When the second call for troops was received a detachment of three hundred infantrymen was enlisted and sent to the regiment. Battery A, Capt. Edgar R. Barker, and the Machine Gun Battery, Capt. Henry Walcott were ordered to Quonset Point and mustered into the Federal service, the latter as Battery B, Light Artillery.

Volunteer military companies were organized in various parts of the State and tendered their services for the emergency—among them were The Island Artillery of Middletown; The Seaconnet Point Home Guards, and The Tiverton and Little Compton Volunteers. The Grand Army Posts, many fraternal societies, the Hibernian Rifles and The Irish Forester Guards placed their organizations at the disposal of the Governor.

A provisional company, under Lieut. Theodore F. Green, was formed to take the place of Company A in the First Regiment and a new Battery A, under Lieut. George Peck was recruited.

The Newport Artillery Company was ordered to Fort Adams where it encamped for seven days receiving instruction in the use of heavy artillery.

The Naval Reserve Battalion commanded by Commander William McCarthy Little, consisting of an Artillery Company in Providence, a Torpedo Company in Newport, a Torpedo Company in Bristol and a newly organized Artillery Company

in East Providence was mustered into the naval service and assigned to various vessels along the coast. A detail from the Battalion was stationed on Block Island where it maintained during the summer a Coast Signal Station.

Details from the Hospital Corps were on duty constantly while a Cavalry detail from Troop B served during the summer at Camp Dyer.

Company C, 2nd Regiment, Capt. Luke H. Callen; 1st Separate Company (colored), Capt. Robert W. Blunt; Troop B., Cavalry, Capt. William A. Maynard, and Troop A Cavalry, Capt. Edward T. Jones, performed guard duty at the camp for different periods "with faithfulness and judgment under many trying conditions".

No encampment of the brigade was held but the militia was mobilized for three days during May.

Col. Moran of the Second Regiment resigned in November and was succeeded by Col. James H. McGann.

Towards the end of the year the Navy Department loaned to the State, for the drill and instruction of the Naval Battalion the converted yacht "Kanawha".

Lieut. Eiswald of the Providence Division was appointed Commanding officer and Lieut Lippitt Paymaster of the Battalion, was made Navigator. The "Kanawha" failed to produce the results that were expected and after a year's use the Ship was returned to the Navy.

The First Rhode Island U. S. Volunteer Infantry Regiment was mustered out at Camp Fornace, S. C. on March 30th, 1899 and arrived in Providence on April 1st. A parade through the streets of that city followed by a review on Dexter Training Ground, attracted an immense crowd.

While the militia was more or less demoralized at the beginning of the year owing to the absence from the State of officers and men in the Federal Service, as a result of energetic work, by Camp time the brigade found itself in fairly good condition.

Company E, 2nd Regiment, disbanded a few years previous, was reorganized under its former captain, Bernard Hackett.

During the late summer the Government was organizing a Volunteer Philippine Army and Rhode Island was largely represented in one of the new regiments, the 26th Volunteer Infantry. This was a New England regiment in which many former members of the 1st Rhode Island Regiment and the militia had enlisted.

On September 8th this regiment on its way to the West Coast paraded in Providence under its commander Col. Edmund Rice. It was escorted by a provisional regiment made up of the Providence Militia Companies under the command of Col. F. W. Matteson.

In 1899 the Navy Department established yearly cruises for the Naval Militia on regular battleships and the R. I. Battalion profited largely by a week's trip on the U. S. S. "Prairie". This cruise was repeated in 1900 and with more or less regularity since. Company F, 1st Regiment, Wakefield having fallen below the required standing was disbanded and its place in the regiment taken by a Company organized in Woonsocket under Capt. Henry C. Card, Jr.

Gen. Kendall retired in 1901 and was succeeded by Gen. Herbert S. Tanner. For a few days following the resignation of Gen. Kendall and immediately preceeding the election of Gen. Tanner, Col. Arthur V. Warfield served as Brigade Commander. Gen. Tanner at once interested himself in the promotion of rifle practice and as a result of his endeavors the State for the first time sent a team to compete in the interstate matches held at Seagirt, N. J. Capt. Charles C. Gray acted as team Captain and a very creditable showing was made.

In acknowledgement of the superior work done during the year at the inspection, camp and on the rifle range, Troop B, Cavalry, was selected to accompany Governor Gregory as his personal escort to the Pan American Exhibition at Buffalo.

Capt. William A. Maynard was commissioned Major com-

manding the Cavalry Squadron towards the end of the year.

The battalion formation of the Naval Reserves was restored in 1902 and Gardiner C. Sims was elected Commander, serving until 1909.

In 1902 the value of the militia as a force for the preservation of peace and the maintenance of the laws of the State was demonstrated beyond question. In June a strike among the employes of the street railway resulted in considerable turmoil and disturbance in the City of Pawtucket. Cars were stoned and prevented from operating, tracks obstructed, car crews assaulted and the police and civil authorities were openly defied.

On June 11th at 11:30 P. M. orders were issued from the Adjutant General's office directing a force of five hundred (500) men to assemble at Pawtucket, under the command of Gen. Tanner and at 8:20 A. M. on June 12th Companies A, B, C, D and G of the 1st Regiment and Companies B and F, 2nd Regiment, together with a detachment of seventeen (17) members of the Hospital Corps reported at the Pawtucket Armory. Lieut. Col. Forsyth commanding the 1st Regiment and Col. James H. McGann commanding the 2nd, together with their respective staffs, accompanied the troops.

Company H of the 1st Regiment, Company G of the 2nd Regiment and Troop A, Cavalry, all located in Pawtucket, were already assembled at the armory. Later on Major Maynard commanding the Cavalry and Troop B of Providence reported for duty.

Large crowds had assembled at the junction of East Avenue and Pawtucket Avenue where considerable rioting occurred and where street cars had been stoned. The Cavalry was ordered to this point where the rioters were dispersed.

During the afternoon strong detachments of troops were posted at the various centers of disturbance, and Companies E and H, 2nd Regiment, and two Divisions of the Naval Battalion (3rd and 4th) were ordered out. Rioting occurred that night at the car barn on Pawtucket Avenue and Company E,

2nd Regiment, was directed to proceed to the barn and occupy it. The Company arrived at the barn about 10 o'clock. About 9:55 P. M. the First Machine Gun Battery, in response to orders, reported at the armory.

All of the officers and enlisted men with the exception of Troop B were quartered in the armory. Troop B went into camp along side its picket line in a vacant lot across the street from the armory. The horses of Troop A and the guns of the machine gun battery were located in the rear of the armory.

On the following day the troops operated in three divisions, clearing the streets of all obstruction and opening them to travel, dispersing gatherings and endeavoring to preserve order in various sections of the City. The Cavalry, proceeding in advance of the dismounted troops, with firmness and determination dispersed the mobs and without doubt prevented considerable bloodshed. Many arrests were made and the prisoners were marched to the armory under strong guard. Pickets were established at short intervals and machine guns with infantry supports planted at advantageous points. A line of troops was extended along Pawtucket Avenue, keeping the road open to the Providence line.

Gradually the military control was extended to various sections of the city and on Wednesday, June 18th the situation was so well under control that the cars were running on all of the local lines during the day. The guard around the armory was reduced to one company and the forces occupying outlying districts were withdrawn.

Company C, 1st Regiment; Company B, 2nd Regiment and one-half of the Hospital Corps force on duty were relieved and returned home.

It was decided to start night service on the cars that evening. This was done without any disorder. The Cavalry details patrolled Pawtucket Avenue, East Avenue and Main Street until late at night. Vigorous attacks were made upon the street cars attempting to run on the Central Falls lines rendering the operation of these cars extremely dangerous and they were stopped at 9 P. M.

On June 19th Companies B and D, 1st Regiment, and Companies E, F and G, 2nd Regiment, were returned to their home stations. The cavalry continued its patrol in the territory adjacent to Pawtucket and East Avenues and Main Street.

Another attempt was made to run night cars within the limits of the City of Pawtucket. A few cases of stone throwing resulted but in general the attempt was unsuccessful.

Some trouble resulted in Central Falls on the 20th. Obstructions were placed upon the tracks and switches torn up and carried off. Following this the cars were withdrawn.

On June 21st the Machine Gun Battery and Troop A were relieved of duty. In view of the continued feeling of fear and distrust among a large portion of the people, it was deemed inadvisable to withdraw all the troops at this time. Companies E and F, 1st Regiment, and the 1st and 2nd Divisions of the Naval Battalion were ordered to report to take the place of organizations relieved. These troops arrived on the 22nd. Major Charles H. Ledward, 1st Regiment of Infantry, relieved Gen. Tanner of active command.

It was decided to retain Troop B, Cavalry, and Company A, 1st Regiment of Infantry. "The Cavalry having proved indispensable in the previous operations." Companies G and H, 1st Regiment and Company H, 2nd Regiment, together with the 3rd and 4th Divisions of the Naval Battalion were relieved from duty.

During the following three days the troops were kept in the armory in readiness to proceed to any point where their services might be required. Details from the Cavalry troop patrolled the principal streets during the evening but reported no disturbances.

In the late afternoon of June 25th all troops, with the exception of a small guard left at the armory were returned to their homes, having performed a duty that was most fatiguing and disagreeable with an enthusiasm and vigor that was praiseworthy and reflected great credit upon the militia as a whole. The Cavalry in particular was highly commended for its work.

It had been called upon to guard miles of car tracks, maintain extensive patrols and disperse disorderly assemblages in various sections of the city.

On August 23rd President Roosevelt visited Providence and was escorted on a tour of the city by Troop B.

In 1903 the old obsolete Federal Militia Law of 1792 which required every citizen to provide himself with a suitable musket and a plentiful supply of flints, powder and ball, was superceded by modern legislation designed to create uniform organization, drill, armament and equipment throughout the entire militia of the country.

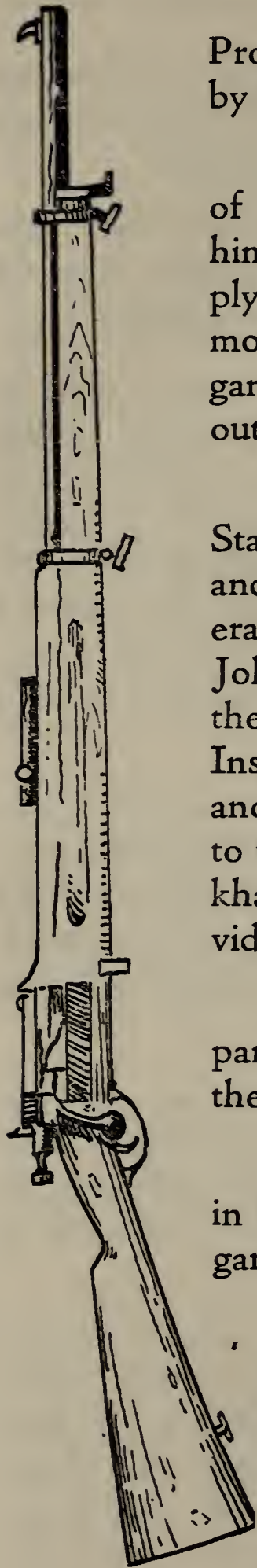
Substantial support was extended to the States and closer relationship between the militia and the regular army was established through Federal inspections and joint maneuvers. Major John B. Wisser of Fort Adams was detached by the War Department to conduct the first Federal Inspection. As a result of this inspection the issuance of U. S. Magazine (Krag) rifles and carbines to the brigade was commenced. Field uniforms of khaki were issued and the Naval Battalion was provided with a thirty foot steam cutter.

The entire brigade paraded in Providence as part of the ceremonies incident to the transfer of the old State battle flags to the new State House.

In 1904 Company C, 2nd Regiment, located in Bristol, was disbanded and a new company organized in Riverpoint under Capt. John Farrell.

The entire brigade was equipped with Krag's and a modern battery of breech loading guns was issued to Battery A to replace its old muzzle loading Civil War cannon.

In 1904 the cruise of the Naval Battalion was omitted, the organization performing its



Summer tour of duty in a camp on Block Island.

The plan of giving each organization in the brigade a field day at the rifle range with pay, transportation and subsistence was adopted and proved most satisfactory. Eighty-six Per Cent of the total enrollment practiced and in September a team selected from the best shots in the militia participated in the national matches at Fort Riley, Kansas.

This year an unusual honor was achieved by one of Rhode Island's companies. Troop B of the Cavalry led the entire country in small arms practice. The maximum membership of the organization allowed by law, qualified either as experts, sharpshooters or marksmen with the rifle and as sharpshooters or marksmen with the revolver. In all probability this remarkable record has never been equalled either before or since.

In 1905 Major Charles Allenson followed Major Maynard as commanding officer of the Cavalry Squadron; rifle teams were sent to Wakefield and Sea Girt; the brigade held its usual encampment at Quonset Point and the Naval Battalion made its cruise on the U. S. S. Columbia. This cruise was repeated on the same ship the following year.

VIII

THE RHODE ISLAND NATIONAL GUARD 1907-1917

The desirability of converting at least a portion of the brigade into Coast Artillery, in order that it could be used to supplement the garrisons of the bay forts in case of war, was recommended by the Federal Government and in 1907 both regiments and Battery A were sent to the forts in order that the officers and men have an opportunity to acquaint themselves with the drill and duties of Coast Artillery.

The 1st Regiment and Battery A were sent to Fort Greble while the 2nd Regiment went to Fort Adams. The Signal and Hospital Corps were distributed between the two forts.

The Cavalry and Machine Gun Battery jointly made a practice march through the southern part of the State and the Naval Battalion served on the U. S. S. Prairie.

The militia law of the State was amended in an attempt to comply with the Federal requirements and the Brigade of Rhode Island militia became officially "The Rhode Island National Guard". Col. James H. McGann commanding the 2nd Regiment resigned and was succeeded by Col. Charles E. Mulhern.

During this year as a result of dissension in the Kentish Guards there was organized in East Greenwich a company under the name of the Varnum Continentals. In 1908 both regiments together with the Machine Gun Battery and the Hospital Corps performed their summer tour of duty at the forts, being stationed at Adams, Greble and Wetherill where the fundamentals of Coast Artillery work was imparted to both officers and men.

The Cavalry and Battery A encamped at Quonset Point

and the Naval Battalion made a cruise on the U. S. S. Yankee.

This year the State Armory on Cranston Street, on the site of the old Arsenal, was completed and occupied by the Providence Companies and new U. S. Magazine (Springfield) rifles were issued to all the troops in the National Guard.

The interest in rifle practice continued and a team was sent to compete in the matches held at Camp Perry, Ohio.

Further amendments to the militia law abolished the brigade formation of the National Guard and placed in the Governor the authority to designate the composition of the Guard by General Orders. By this law General Tanner was retired and two Divisions of Coast Artillery of eight companies each were substituted for the two Infantry regiments. Col. George A. Forsyth commanded the 1st District while Col. Charles E. Mulhern commanded the 2nd.

For the first time in the history of the Militia the bands were composed of enlisted men. Walter L. Anthony and William F. C. Wing were appointed chief musicians of the 1st and 2nd Bands.

The 1st Separate Company (colored) having become more or less disorganized was disbanded.

To perpetuate the history and traditions of the Providence Horse Guards there was organized in 1908 among the surviving veterans of the Horse Guards and the members of Troop B a semi-military association under the name of The Providence Troop of Cavalry.

In 1909 the Government issued new russet leather saddlery to the Cavalry in place of the old black equipment used for so many years.



William C. Bliss was commissioned Commander of the Naval Battalion, serving until 1915.

The designation of the Coast Artillery Companies was changed from letters to numbers,—the First to Eighth Companies inclusive being assigned to the First District while the Ninth to Sixteenth Companies comprised the Second District.

The Machine Gun Battery became Battery B, Field Artillery although no guns or equipment were issued to it.

The Coast Artillery served at the forts during the summer; the Cavalry and Field Artillery made road marches and the Naval Battalion was distributed this year on the Battleships Rhode Island, New Jersey and Virginia.

During the following year the Armory of the Riverpoint Company was destroyed by fire with all of the equipment of the Company. Battery B, Field Artillery, was converted into Troop C, Cavalry, under Capt. E. Merle Bixby and Walter E. Gatchell was elected Major of the Squadron.

Battery A, Field Artillery, was reorganized, the old officers all resigning. Capt. R. S. Hamilton, former Adjutant of the 1st Regiment, was placed in command and steps taken to recruit the organization to its full strength.

The Naval Battalion performed its tour of duty on the Battleships Mississippi and Idaho, and on the Aileen, a vessel assigned to the State for the use of the Division. The three troops of Cavalry attended the joint camp of instruction at Pine Camp, in Northern New York, where they had their first experience in maneuvers on a large scale,—much valuable knowledge was gained in entraining and detraining troops, horses and equipment.

On February 1st, 1911, Col. Charles W. Abbot was elected Adjutant General, succeeding Frederick M. Sackett.

In March the unsettled condition of affairs in Mexico resulted in the mobilization of all available regular troops on the Texas frontier. The War Department invited the States to detail for two week periods a limited number of National Guard

officers to the mobilization for purposes of instruction and observation. From Rhode Island were sent eight officers to the Camp at San Antonio, Texas, and six to Fort Riley, Kansas.

On June 23 President William H. Taft made a visit to Providence and again Troop B was called upon to act as Presidential Escort and Guard of Honor.

In order to increase the efficiency of the mounted commands it was this year proposed to change the lower drill hall in the Providence Armory into a riding hall and a small appropriation was made by the legislature for this purpose. This was found to be impractical and it was proposed to construct a riding rink on the training ground adjacent to the Armory. This project was opposed by the Cavalry officers who insisted that a separate armory for the squadron and battery was essential and that the proposed outdoor rink would not accomplish the object desired.

Accordingly during the January Session (1912) of the Legislature a resolution providing for the erection of an armory for the mounted commands was introduced and in due time passed.

In the meantime from the militia appropriation a sum of money was made available for the hire of horses for drill purposes and Saturday afternoon and Sunday marches were held by the cavalry and field artillery.

The battery of two ten inch Rodman guns at Quonset Point originally used to train the infantry in Coast Artillery Work was dismantled and the guns presented to the town of East Greenwich for display at the armory of the Varnum Continentals.

The condition of Troop A had become quite unsatisfactory and the captain and second lieutenant resigned. 1st Lieut. John T. McAuley was commissioned Captain but was soon succeeded by Capt. Charles A. Thayer.

Interest in small arms practice was indicated by the record number of 1272 rifle and revolver medals issued at the close of the season. A rifle team was sent to Wakefield, olive drab

pyramidal tents supplanted the old white wall tents, army wagons took the place of the old moving vans heretofore used as baggage wagons, new steel field ranges were issued and regulation olive drab woolen uniforms replaced the cotton khaki. The medical Department was supplied with the latest type of Field Hospital.

Col. Mulhern resigned and his place as commander of the 2nd Regiment was taken by Col. Francis Cannon.

The Cavalry officers, together with their non-commissioned officers, in 1913 attended the Cavalry School at Ft. Ethan Allen. Later on the Squadron, with the troops of Connecticut and Massachusetts, as a provisional regiment under Major Frank Marshall, the U. S. Instructor-Inspector for New England, engaged in the extensive maneuvers held this year in the vicinity of Middleboro, Mass.

In September a detachment of Rhode Island Militia consisting of the Newport Artillery; the Third Company, Coast Artillery and the Naval Battalion was selected to represent the State at the Perry Celebration at Put In Bay, New York. The First Light Infantry attended the celebration at its own expense. As a result of an epidemic of typhoid fever, scores of the militia men were made seriously ill while several died.

During 1914 persistent rumors of a possible mobilization of troops for service in Mexico resulted in great activity in the National Guard throughout the state and all organizations were recruited to the legal limit.

The cavalry squadron, in consequence of the government's refusal to recognize a squadron of less than four troops, was abolished and the cavalry became officially Troops A, B, and C, Rhode Island Cavalry.

The necessity for regular mounted drill resulted in the formation of the Cavalry Club by the officers of the three troops and the purchase by that organization of twenty four mid-western horses. These horses through an arrangement with the Adjutant General were hired by the state for drill purposes and upon the completion of the riding rink and stables of the Armory of Mounted Commands in the late Summer of 1914 they

afforded the cavalry troops, for the first time in their history, opportunity for weekly mounted drill.

The Government issued to the Naval Battalion this year United States Magazine rifles, recalling the Krag's with which the battalion had been armed for several years and the National Guard was supplied with new tentage and dress coats.

The Cavalry made a road march to Hampton, Conn., camping at Hopkins Mills enroute. Joint manoeuvres were held with the cavalry of Massachusetts and Connecticut and the 2nd Squadron, 2nd U. S. Cavalry.

Battery A again went to Tobyhanna for its summer tour of duty, the Naval Battalion made a cruise on the U. S. S. Rhode Island and the chartered commands for the first time went into camp at Quonset Point.

The Signal Corps was changed into Coast Artillery, being designated the 17th Company. The two district formation of the Coast Artillery was discontinued, all of the companies being organized as one corps, with Col. Tillinghast in Command.

In February 1915 the riding rink and stables of the armory of mounted commands were formally opened although the entire building was not completed until October 1925.

During the summer of 1915, the Cavalry of Connecticut and Massachusetts, together with the Rhode Island troops encamped at Quonset Point. The 2nd Squadron, 2nd Cavalry, made a road march from Ft. Ethan Allen, Vermont, to take part in this encampment.

This year (1915) interest in aviation began to be aroused in the State's military establishment and a substantial sum of money was raised for the development of aeronautics in the Rhode Island National Guard. Miss L. B. Nickerson of Providence contributed \$7500 which, together with funds raised by the Providence Journal, was placed on deposit for this purpose.

The rumors of the Mexican mobilization persisted. The Hospital corps was reorganized as the Ambulance Company under Capt. Herbert H. Armington. The Naval Battalion made its cruise on the U. S. S. Kentucky. The chartered Com-

mands were inspected and a rifle team was sent to Wakefield.

The Mexican situation became acute early in 1916 and the National Guard was being prepared for the expected mobilization.

From the First Division of the Naval Reserve Battalion, an aeronautic Section of twenty-three enlisted men under Ensign Thomas J. H. Pierce was detailed. Two aeroplanes were purchased, one a Sturtevant hydroaeroplane being assigned to the Naval Battalion and the other, a Curtis machine, was turned over to the National Guard.

In June, Lieut. Richard E. Byrd, Jr. was detailed by the Navy Department as Inspector-Instructor of the Naval Militia and the battalion made its annual cruise on the U. S. S. Virginia.

The Aeronautic Section went into camp at Quonset Point where instruction and practice in flying were held.

A monster preparedness demonstration with parades and mass meetings occurred in which 54,000 men and women of the state took part.

A fourth troop of Cavalry, D, was organized, details from the three existing troops forming the nucleus of the new troop. Lieut. S. A. Hall of Troop B was assigned to command the new troop.

On June 18 at 9 A. M. orders were received directing Troops A, B, and C together with Battery A and the Ambulance Company to report at Quonset Point preparatory to en-training for El Paso, Texas. At 7:30 P. M. the three troops and the Ambulance Company were in camp. Battery A being on a road march reported on the following day.

The War Department has reported that but one other state exceeded the record of Rhode Island in complying with the mobilization call.

It has been said that no other state had its troops in the mobilization camp in so short a time after the receipt of the order and few if any reported so fully recruited and equipped.

Later on Troop D was included in the mobilization order. Some delay resulted in equipping four troops from the material provided for three but in due time extra equipment was received and the four troops were mustered into Federal Service as a Squadron, Capt. J. J. Richards being commissioned as Major Commanding.

By this time Troop D unofficially adopted the letter "M" as its designation, upon the assumption that if the cavalry troops of New England were united as a regiment it would be the twelfth troop in the organization.

On Saturday, July 8th, 1916 the Squadron under Major Richards entrained at Davisville and arrived at Fort Bliss, Texas on July 14th where Battery A, Capt. E. S. Chaffee and the Ambulance Company, Capt. Herbert H. Armington had already established camp on the Mesa at the foot of the Franklin range of mountains. Here on a desert of sand, cactus and sage brush, a program of the most intensive training was taken up. It is safe to say that no troops were ever called upon to perform more arduous work.

The troop commanders were Capt. Herbert A. Dean, Troop A; Capt. Charles H. Richards, Troop B; Capt. Charles Spratt, Troop C; and Capt. S. A. Hall, Troop M. Lieut. Davis G. Arnold was Squadron Adjutant and Lieut. Bertram H. Baxton, Medical Officer.

The Coast Artillery was sent to the bay forts for its annual tour of duty during the last two weeks in July and the Newport Artillery, recently equipped with U. S. Magazine rifles and furnished with new service uniforms, went into camp at Quonset Point for a week in October.

The chartered commands were inspected and showed a marked improvement over previous years.

Late in October the Cavalry, Battery A and the Ambulance Company returned to Quonset Point where they were mustered out of the Service. A civic and military "Welcome Home" parade was held in Providence to celebrate the return of the troops.

As a result of Federal Legislation passed in 1916 the Gov-

ernment furnished each of the mounted organizations thirty-two horses for military use. Pending the construction of additional stables at the Armory of Mounted Commands the horses of Troops A and M were kept in a stable on Dodge Street while those of Troop C were quartered in a stable on James Street in Providence.

The Federal Pay Bill became law during the summer and under it the officers and men received pay for attendance at drill.

In December Lieut. Byrd received a Commission as Commander in the Rhode Island Naval Militia and was placed in charge of the battalion.

In 1917 rumors of war aroused great interest in the militia of the State. Recruiting offices were opened on Weybosset Street and in the Central Fire Station. An additional Naval Division was formed in Providence and the Aeronautic Section was increased to a Division.

A Marine Company was formed and attached to the Naval Battalion. It was composed of members of the First Light Infantry and a detachment of men from Scituate and vicinity. John H. Sadler was commissioned Captain of the Company. Battery A was expanded to a battalion of three batteries under the command of Major R. S. Hamilton. Additional companies of Coast Artillery were formed in Providence, Warren, and Bristol and a Dental Corps was made part of the National Guard.

The Chartered Commands were recruited to their full strength, the First Light Infantry having enrolled 500 officers and men under Col. William F. Flanagan.

In February the War Department requested that all important bridges be guarded on main railroad lines and details from the Coast Artillery Companies were at once ordered out on that duty. They were later relieved by the cavalry troops.

On April 2nd a provisional battalion of Coast Artillery consisting of the 2nd, 5th, 12th and 15th Companies commanded by Major Alexander Johnson was mustered into Fed-

eral Service for bridge guard duty. This battalion continued on this work until July 3rd.

On April 6th war was declared and on the same day the Naval Battalion was ordered into Federal service. A crew of five officers and thirty four men was detailed to the "Aileen" under Lieut. Commander E. P. Gladding and the remainder of the battalion was sent to Boston where it was assigned to various ships. The hydroaeroplane, together with its tender, was taken to Boston by the Aeronautic Division of the Battalion.

On April 8th the Newport Artillery took over the guarding of the railroad bridge at Tiverton, being relieved on June 28th.

On July 25th the mobilization order was received and the entire National Guard numbering about 3900 officers and men paraded in Providence. The mounted commands were sent at once to Quonset Point and the Coast Artillery was assembled at the various armories. In a short time that splendid corps, without doubt the largest and best organized and equipped body of troops ever created in the State was torn apart, scattered throughout New England and its identity as a Rhode Island organization lost.

The headquarters with the 1st Band and Companies 3rd, 7th, 11th, 16th and 18th were sent to Ft. Wetherall; the 1st Company to Ft. Adams; the 6th, 14th and 15th to the Springfield Arsenal; the 2nd Band and the 17th Company to Ft. Greble; the 4th and 5th Companies to Ft. Getty; the 19th to Ft. Rodman; the 8th and 12th Companies to Ft. Kearney; the 13th to Ft. Warren and the 2nd, 9th, 10th and 20th Companies to Ft. Standish. The Cavalry remained a few weeks at Quonset and then proceeded to Massachusetts. At Camp Bartlett, Westfield, Troops A and C became Machine Gun troops and Troop B was converted into the 101st Supply Train.

Troop M was sent to Camp Curtis Guild, Boxford, Massachusetts, and became Headquarters Battery of the 103rd Field Artillery to which our Batteries A, B and C had been assigned. The Ambulance Company was sent to Niantic where it was redesignated as the 104th Ambulance Company.

All of our mobile companies, reinforced by details from our Coast Artillery Companies, became part of the 26th Division and sailed for France during October. The Naval Battalion, with the exception of a crew on the "Aileen", was sent to Boston where it was taken over by the Navy Department.

Upon the muster of the National Guard into the Federal service the Chartered Commands became the nucleus of a splendid State Guard regiment which performed militia service throughout the entire war and during the reorganization of the National Guard upon its return from Federal service.

This regiment was well organized and drilled, supplied with competent and experienced officers, and composed of 18 companies divided into five battalions. It was commanded by Col. Herbert Bliss.

The above history of Rhode Island's militia from its inception in 1638 to the time of its departure from the state for service during the World War is necessarily sketchy and abridged but it endeavors to record every organization that served the colony or state and also every event of importance that tended to improve or make more efficient our military arm.

Mention may be made of the several veteran military organizations that came into existence after the Civil War and took an active interest in the military and civic affairs of the State. Composed as they were of patriotic and prominent citizens these organizations were a great influence for good in their respective communities. Of these organizations The First Light Infantry Veteran Association, The United Train of Artillery Veteran Association, The Bristol Artillery Veterans and the Slocum Light Guard Veteran Association are still active.

No attempt has been made to enumerate the many church and temperance cadet companies or drill organizations that sprang into existence at different periods, flourished for a while and disappeared. Among these however, we may recall as being most prominent in their field The St. Michael's Cadets, later acquiring fame as the South Providence Cadets; The Olneyville Cadets; The Central Falls Cadets; The Emmet Cadets; Turo Guards; Grattan Cadets; Garde Richlieu and Garde Jacques Cartier.

APPENDIX A.

ADJUTANTS GENERAL, STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Archibald Crary	1779-1787
William Barton	1788-
George Waterman	1789-1790
Simeon Martin	1791-1792
Robert Rogers	1794-1797
Daniel Sheldon	1797-1799
Ebenezer Burrill	1799-1802
Samuel W. Brigham	1803-1810
Nathaniel Searle, Jr.	1810-1816
Louis Rousmaniere	1816-1819
Bernon Helme	1819-1821
Bennett H. Wheeler	1821-1822
Josiah Whitaker	1822-1823
Thomas F. Carpenter	1823-1826
Levi Haile	1826-1831
George S. Rathbone	1831-1834
Elisha R. Potter	1834-1837
Jesse S. Tourtellot	1837-1838
Nathan F. Dixon	1838-1839
Edward H. Hazard	1839-1840
Elisha Dyer, Jr.	1840-1845
Thomas A. Jenckes	1845-1856
Edward C. Mauran	1856-1875
Heber Le Fevre	1875-1878
C. Henry Barney	1878-1881
William W. Douglas	1882-
Elisha Dyer, Jr.	1882-1895
Hunter C. White	1895-
Frederic M. Sackett	1895-1911
Charles W. Abbott, Jr.	1911-1923
Henry De Witt Hamilton	1923-1924
John J. Richards	1924-1926
Arthur C. Cole	1926-

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Bristol Neck Infantry	53
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Burnside National Guards	64
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Col. Richmond's Regiment	23
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WILLIAM EASTON LOUITT

PROVIDENCE

RHODE ISLAND

1940

RHODE ISLAND'S EARLY

DEFENDERS AND THEIR

SUCCESSORS

BY BRIG. GEN. J. J.

RICHARDS

CHAPIN - TYSON
